A true DESCRIPTION OF THE Mighty Kingdoms OF JAPAN AND SIAM.

Written Originally in Dutch by *Francis Caron* and *Fooſt Schorten* :

And now rendred into Engliſh By Capt. *ROGER MANLEY*.

LONDON,
Printed for *Robert Boulter*, at the *Turks-head* in *Cornhill*, over againſt the *Royall Exchange*. 1671.

I Find nothing in this Translation why it may not properly enough be Printed,

Joseph Williamson.

By the appointment of the Right Honourable Mr Secretary

Whitehall November 10. 1662.

BENNET.

To my dear
BROTHER
Major *Francis Manley.*

Dear Brother,

THE Dedication (as well as Writing) of Books being ſtrongly warranted by Cuſtom (the great Moderatour of our Affairs and Actions) it appeareth not incongruous to me, that this Tranſlation paſs into the World under your conduct; whoſe pretentions as they ſtand fair to the Patronage of more ſublime Labours, ſo I am aſſured they will not be wanting in their Indulgence to the Infirmities of this Trifle, upon which the Book-ſeller having prevailed

with me to caſt away ſome ſpare hours, as a Complement to my Countrey (at leaſt to his Intereſts) I was more eaſily tempted to undertake it, as what might be a divertiſement to you; ſo that how cheap ſoever it appear in it ſelf, my dear Brother hath goodneſs enough to conſider it, as expoſing me to the cenſure of thouſands upon the ſingle account of diverting him alone; and that having been a principal deſign of my life, I make this addreſs, where my affection, not my ambition, leads me.

For the Matter, it is the Author muſt ſtand accountable, not I; (and I can aſſure you, he is of a paſſable reputation in his own Countrey) but for the bad Engliſh, I hope a Fourteen years Exile may excuſe the Errata's in our very Mother-Tongue. I will not further beſpeak your protection, leſt it be judged the effect of my importunity, and not your kindneſs; I therefore commit you to Him, who hath preſerved you and me, through no ordinary dangers, to ſee the

the Land of our *Canaan*, though not to enjoy the fruits of it; but the happiness of our Soveraign doth virtually comprehend in it that of all His Creatures; in which number as it is your honour and mine, upon the score of an unalterable loyalty, attended with many sufferings, and our best services to stand ranked; so is it my extream contentment and satisfaction, that I may style my self,

Dear B R O T H E R,

Your most faithful and most affectionate Brother, and humble Servant,

Roger Manley.

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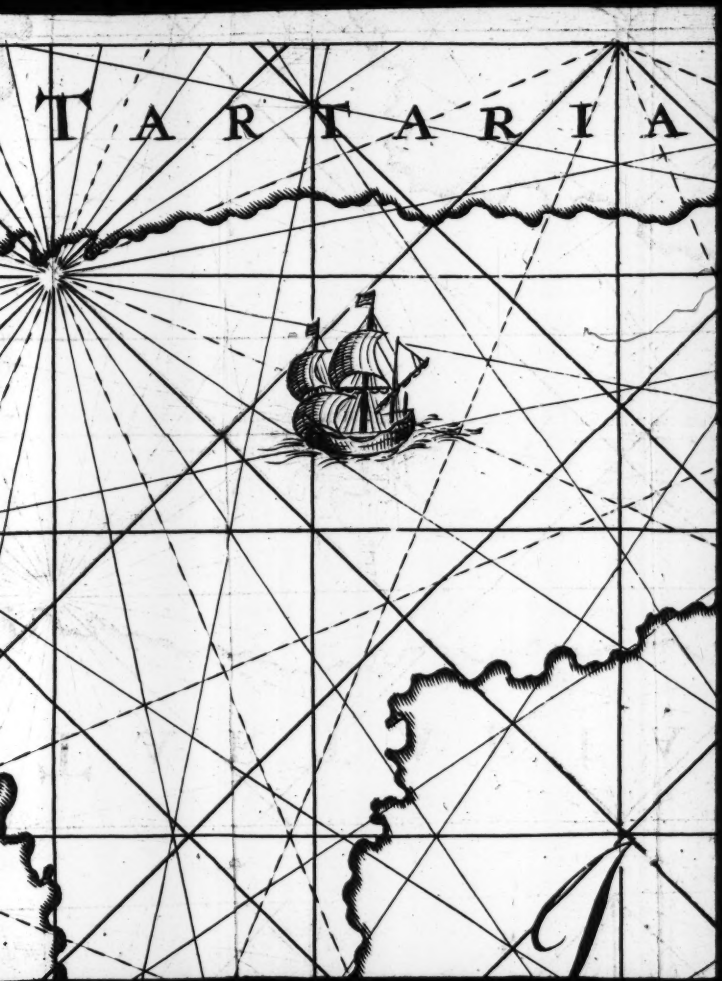
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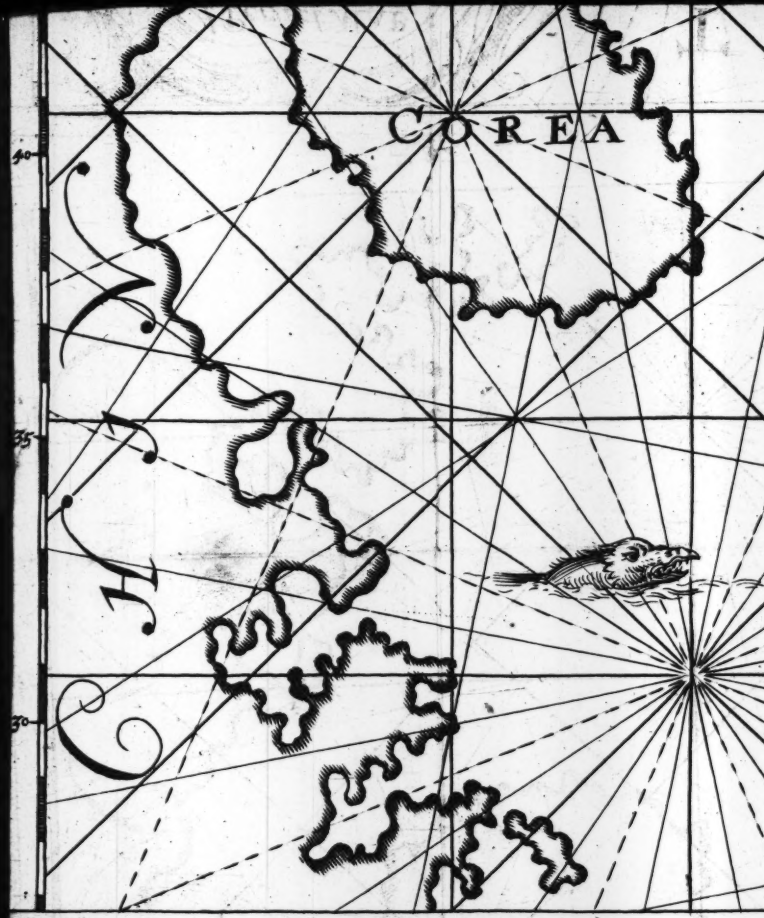
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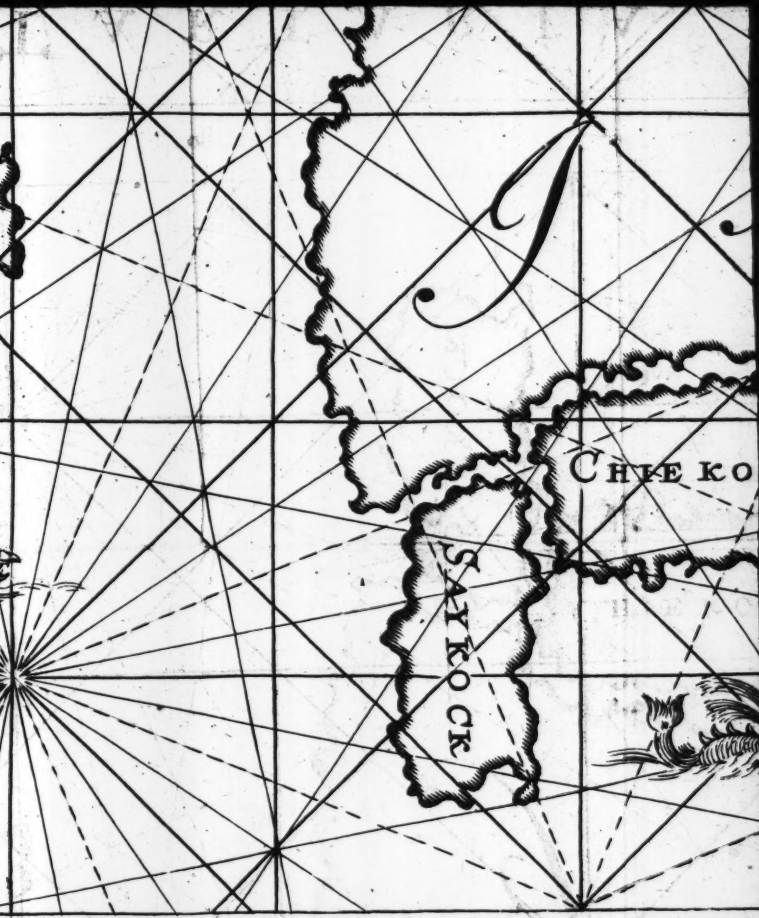
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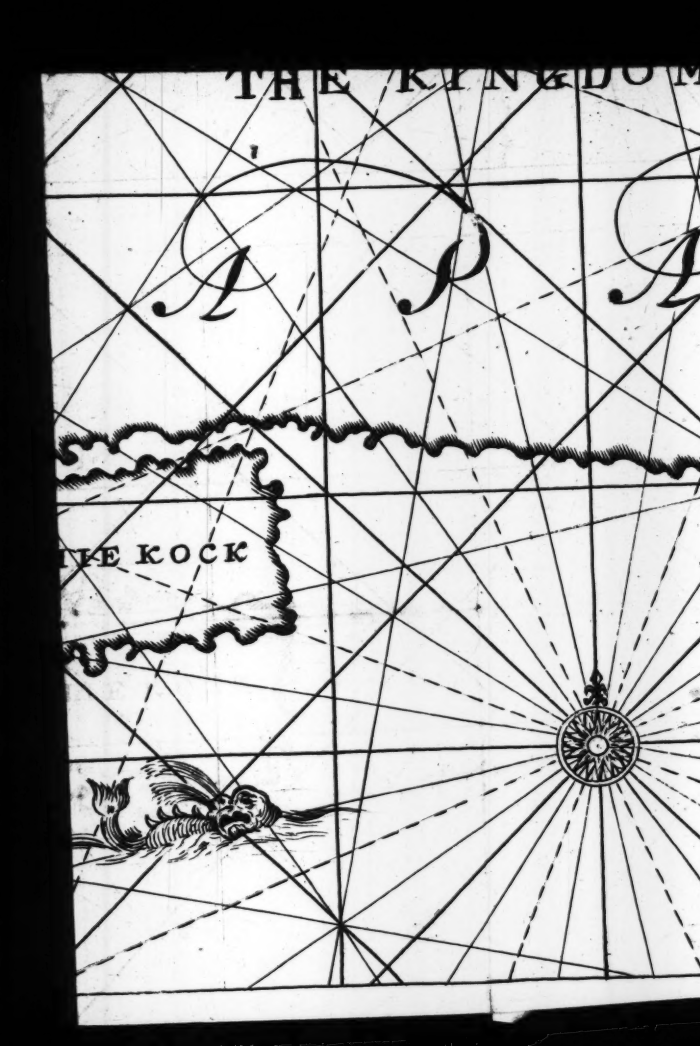
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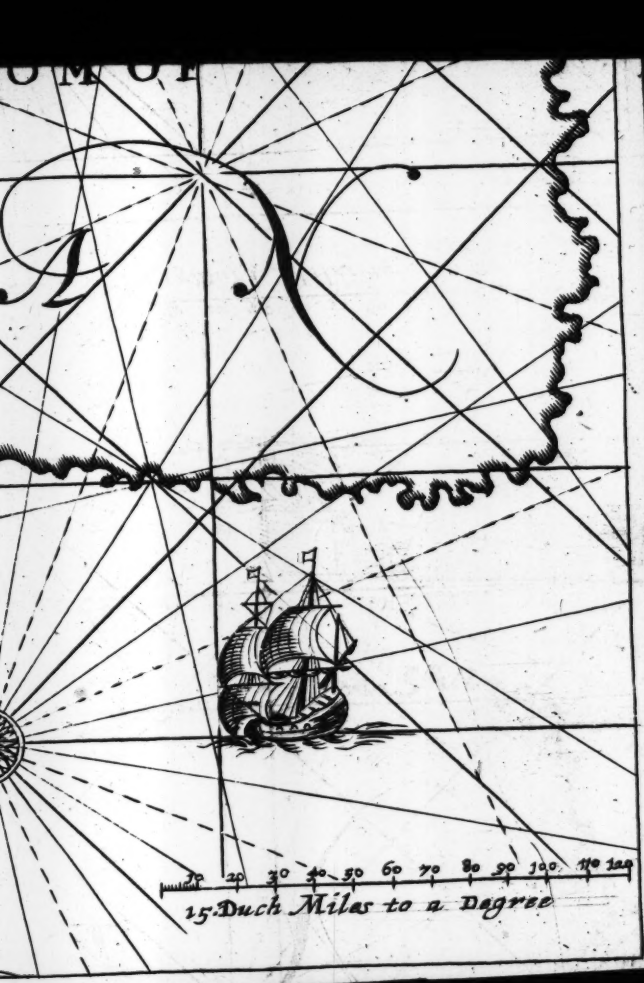
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15. Duch Miles to a Degree

A True Description of the Mighty Kingdoms of JAPAN & SIAM.

MY fourtene years residence in the low Countreys (I may rather say my banishment thither) being upon the rendition of one of the Kings Garrisons, in the year 1646 obliged by my Articles to depart the Kingdome within six moneths (As it hath, in some measure, furnished me with the knowledge of the Dutch tongue, so hath it given me room to observe the indefatigable industry of that people, who all of them, in their severall stations, and according to their severall powers and capacities, do unanimously conspire & coopporate to their support and growth in the World. And that I, by their example or rather by the impulse of my owne *Genius*, may cast my mite, into the service of my Countrey, I judged it not wholy unprofitable to put this

ſhort relation of the Great Kingdoms of *Japan* & *Siam* into the Engliſh tongue, which for the vaſtneſſe of thoſe Territories (ſcarce known to us by name) The Reputation of the Authour (whoſe Collections are of great credit) But principally, as a ſpur to the improvement of further diſcoveries & Traffick by my own Country men, will not, I hope, be unacceptable to the Reader, who I wiſh may ſo far indulge the bad Engliſh of one almoſt degenerated into a forreigner, (at leaſt in his language) that it may receive a fair acceptation, which is all I propoſe to my ſelf in this matter. I am not ignorant that amongſt the multitude of books, under which the Preſſe groanes, it is not enough, to write well. But I being reſtrayned to a Tranſlation, muſt not pretend to riſe higher then my fountain head. And my Authour having made rather a collection then a Hiſtory, wherein he ſeems to affect truth and brevity, more then the ornament of words, I thought it becoming me, If I would walk in his ground, to tread in his ſteps, wherein if you will pleaſe to divert your ſelf I ſhall in his Perſon proceed to tell you.

How

How great the Countrey of Japan is and whether it be an Iſland or no.

THe Countrey of *Japan* is ſuppoſed to be an Iſland, though there be no certainty of it, this vaſt territorie not being yet wholy diſcovered to the inhabitants themſelves. I have often enquired and been informed that Travellers have gone from the Province of *Quanto* the principal of his Majeſties dominions wherein the Imperial City and Pallace of *Jedo* are ſcituated, 27 daies North-Eaſt wards, before they could reach the utmoſt point of the land of *Sungaer*, bordering upon the Sea; being come thither they paſſed over an Iſthmus of 33 Engliſh miles broad, leading into the Country of *Jezzo* abounding in skins and furrs of price. This territory is very great, mountainous but little inhabited. The *Japaners* attempted its diſcovery ſeverall times, but in vain, for though they entred to & fro, far into the Countrey, yet they could never find its end, nor any certainty concerning it, their proviſions ordinary failing them, which inforced their fruitleſſe returnes. The diſcoverers reports of theſe, were ſo imperfect that his Majeſty diſpaired of any further Satisfaction, the countrey being preſented

as desolate and unpassable, though in some places inhabited with a people all over hairy (wearing their Beards long, like the Chineses) brutish though otherwise well shaped. To consider therefore the uncertainty whether this Countrey be an Island or no; we may observe that the passage between *Sungaer* and *Jezzo* is no running water but an Inlet or long Istmus of the Sea it self, 120 English Miles long, extending it self betwixt *Jezzo* and *Japan*, where it bounds upon vast mountaines and deserts, about the Province of *Ochio*; so that, that way being wholly unpassable by land, travellers are forced to ferry over the aforesaid *Isthmus* from *Sungaer* to *Jezzo*, in Barkes and such shipping as they have: The two great Islands of *Chirkock* and *Saykock* are governed by Kings and Lords that share with them in the Magistracy. *Chirkock* hath one King and three Lords. *Saykock* being the bigger of the two, hath more Governours, but both are accounted Provinces of this great Empire, though least in extent of those whereof it is composed.

How

How many Provinces it containes.

THat great Territory which we call *Japan* & the inhabitants *Nippon*, borders upon those afore mentioned Islands and stretcheth to the unknown Countrey of *Jezzo*, & is divided into five Provinces, to wit, *Iam Aystero*, *Ietsengo*, *Ietsesen*, *Quanto* & *Ochio*, the which, with the Islands of *Saykock* & *Chirkock*, make seaven in all, whose Dominions, Cities and Castles are subdivided under several Kings and Lords as the following specification of the Revenue of the whole land abundantly sheweth.

An Extract of the Sealed accompts and specification of the Revenue (Excepting the Emperours) of the Kings Princes Dukes and Lords of Japan, *together with the names of their Countreys and Castles according to the* Japans *accompt in* Cockyens *each* Cockyen *being ten Carolus Guilders, which is some twenty Shillings Sterling.*

Cangano Tsiunangon, King of *Canga*, *Gettichus*, & *Natta* hath his residence in the Castle of *Canga*, his Revenues amounts to 1190000.

Sunt:

Surngano Daynangon, King of *Surnga*, *Totoa* and *Mitaunea*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Fayſſes*, hath in Revenue 720000.

Ouwariño Daynangou, King of *Owary* and *Mimo*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Mangay*, and hath 700000.

Sendaino Thiunangon, King of *Maſſamne* and *Ochio*, lives in the invincible Caſtle of *Sendey*, and hath 640000.

Satſumanon Thiunangon, King of *Satſuma Oſſimus Fiungo* and *Quichio*, lives in *Kaugaſima*, and hath 600000.

Rinocaouny Daynangon, King of *Kimo* and *Iſhe*, lives in the Caſtle of *Wake Famma*, and hath 550000.

Catto Fingonocamy, King of *Tingo*, lives in the Caſtle of *Koumamotte*, and hath 554000.

Matſendeyro Jemenoſio, King of *Tſunkiſen* and *Faccatia*, dwells in *Foucoſa*, and hath 510000.

Matſendeyro Jonocany, King of the Great Province of *Ietcheſen*, lives at *Ocede*, & hath 511000.

Catto S. Kibo, King of *Oſio*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Aie*, and hath in Revenue 430000.

Aſſano Tayſima, King of *Bingo*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Oky*, and hath 420000.

Matſendeyro Nangato, King of *Soua*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Fangy*, and hath 370000.

Miſtomo Thionangon, King of *Fitayts*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Mit*, and hath 360000.

Nabiſſima Simano, King of *Thiſien*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Logion*, and hath 360000.

Matſendeyro Sentairo, King of *Fanabafoky*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Tackaham*, hath 360000.

Todo Iſumy, King of *Fanga Iche*, dwells in the Caſtle of *Son*, hath 320000.

Matſendeyro Lonsey, King of *Biſſen*, dwells at *Oſſaiamma*, hath 310000.

Inno

Inno Cammon, the bravest of the Princes
King of *Tosamy*, dwels in *Sovaiamma* & hath 300000.
Fosso Cowa Jetcin, King of *Boytes*, lives
at *Cockera*, and hath 300000.
Oyesungi Dayusio, King of *Jotsengo*, dwells
in the Castle of *Gunisauwa*, and hath 300000.
Matsendeyro Denrio, King of the Province
of *Jetsengo*, lives at *Formando*, and hath 300000.
Matsendeyro Auwa, Duke of *Auwa*, dwells
in the Castle *Incks*, and hath 250000.
Matsendeyro Jetchigenacamii, Duke of the
land of *Conge*, dwells at *Tabato*, and hath 250000.
Matsendeyro Tsiusio, Duke of *Joo*, dwells at
Mats Jamma, and hath 250000.
Ariama Grimba, Duke of *Tsirkingo*, dwells
at *Courme*, hath 240000.
Morimo Imasack, Prince of *Imasaka*, dwells
at *Tsiamma*, and hath 200000.
Tory Inganocanii, Prince of *Sewana*, dwells
at *Jammengatta*, hath 200000.
Matsendeyro Tosa, Prince of *Tosnacorii*,
dwells at *Tocosiamma*, hath 200000.
Satake Okion, Prince of *Wano*, dwells at
Akita, and hath 200000.
Matsendeyro Simo Sautamy, Prince of *Simosa*
dwells at *Tatebays*, and hath 200000.
Forriwo Jamaissiro, Prince of *Insmo*, dwells
at *Masdayts*, and hath 200000.
Ikouma Ikinocanii, Prince of *Sanike*, dwells
at *Couham*, and hath 180000.
Foriwo Jamassiro, Prince of *Insmo*, dwells
at *Masdayts*, and hath 180000.
Fonda Kayokamii, Knight and Lord of *Farima*, dwells in *Tayeno*, and hath 150000.
Sackey Counay, Knight & Lord of the great
Province of *Wano*, dwels at *Fakfio*, & hath 150000.
Tara Sanwa Simada, Knight and Lord of
Fisen, dwells in *Larats*, and hath 120000.

Kiongock Wakasa Knight and Lord of *Wakasa* dwells in *Ofamma* and hath 120000.

Fory Tango Knight and Lord of *Fetchesen* dwells at *Kawantisma* and hath 120000.

Minsio Fiongo Knight and Lord in *Bingo* dwells at *Fouche Famma* hath 120000.

Sachopharra Eskibon Knight and Lord of *Kooske* dwells in the Castle of *Tattays* hath 120000.

Matsendeyro Tawayts Governour of the Emperors Castle in *Quano* hath 110000.

Oechendyero Imysacka Knight and Lord of *Simotske* dwells in *Oetsuomio* and hath 110000.

Sanada Fut Knight and Lord of *Sinano* dwells at *Koske* and hath 110000.

Tayfibanna Finda Knight and Lord of *Sickingo* dwells in *Imangonwa* and hath 110000.

Ongasaura Oucken Knight and Lord of *Farima* dwells and *Kays* at hath 100000.

Indatiji Vontumii Knight and Lord of *Gyo* dwells in *Itasima* and hath 100000.

Nambon Sinano Knight and Lord in the great Province of *Ochio* dwells at *Mortiamma* and hath 100000.

Niwa Groysemon Knight and Lord in the great Province of *Ochio* dwells at *Siratowa* and hath 100000.

Abeno Bitchion Governour of the Emperors Castle *Iwatsuky* in the Countrey of *Moysays* hath 80000.

Kiongock Oenieme Knight and Lord of *Tanga* dwells in *Tanabe* and hath 70000.

Makino Surnga Lord in *Fetchingo* dwells at *Wangerecka* and hath 70000.

Natkangonwa Nysien Lord in *Bongo* lives in the City of *Nangoan* and hath 70000.

Matsendayro Comba Lord in *Sinano* dwells in *Matsmotte* hath 70000.

Nayito Samma Lord in *Fitayts* dwells in

the City of *Iwaysko* and hath 70000.

Jeckenda Bitchiou Governour of the Emperors Castle *Matsiamma* in *Bitchion* hath 60000.

Matswia Fisennocamii Lord in *Fisen* dwels at *Firando* where the Ships belonging to the Company have their *Haven* and *Traffick* his income is 60000.

Sengoock Fiwo Lord in *Sinano* lives at *Ojenda* and hath 60000.

Catta Sewado Lord in *Gyo* dwells at *Oits* and hath 60000.

Tosruwa Okion Lord in *Dewano* lives in the Lordship of *Shimchiro* and hath 60000.

Matsendeyro Iwamii Lord in the Countrey of *Farima* dwells at *Bisongori* and hath 60000.

Matskonra Bungo Lord in *Fisen* dwells at *Simabarra* and hath 60000.

Jescowma Tonnomon Lord in *Bongo* dwells at *Fita* and hath 60000.

Tsungaar Jetchin Lord in *Othio* dwells at *Tsungaer* a Sea town and hath 60000.

Ongasauwara Simano Lord in *Farimer* dwels at *Sekayr* and hath 60000.

Itho Chiury Lord in *Fonga* dwels at *Orasi* and hath 50000.

Fourta Fiwa Lord in *Iwamy* dwells at *Daysiro* and hath 50000.

Watesacka Arbays Lord in *Sinano* and dwells at *Ino* hath 50000.

Touky Nangato Sord in *Johe* dwells at *Toba* hath 50000.

Arima Soymonoskie Lord in *Niko* dwells at *Asconda* and hath 50000.

Onta Fiwo Lord in *Jamatta* dwells at *Ouda* and hath 50000.

Matsendeyro Dewado Lord in the great Province of *Jetsesen* dwells at *Ouse* & hath 50000.

Minsnocuyte Foky Lord in *Jetsengo* lives at *Ribatia* and hath 50000.

Innaba Mimbro, Lord in *Bongo*, lives at *Ouſtbero*, and hath 50000.
Croda Caynokamii, Lord in *Chimano*, lives at *Camro*, and hath 50000.
Matſendeyro Sonodonno, Lord in *Iſumii*, liveth at *Kiſnowadda*, and hath 50000.
Tonda Sammon, Lord in *Sonnocammy*, dwells at *Amangaſack*, and hath 50000.
Stotſianangy Kemmots, Lord in *Ichie*, lives at *Congon*, and hath 50000.
Fondo Ichenocamy, Lord in *Micanwa*, lives at *Ocha Sacka*, and hath 50000.
Matſendeyro Jamayſſiro, Lord in *Tamba*, dwells at *Caſſaiamma*, and hath 50000.
Mary Caynocamii, Lord in *Ingal Ichi*, dwells at *Sowro Sada*, and hath 50000.
Tonda Notanocamii, Lord in *Farima*, dwells at *Fimens*, and hath 50000.
Akito Sionoſke, Lord in *Fitayts*, dwells at *Chichindo*, and hath 50000.
Aſſano Oenime, Lord in *Chions*, lives at *Caſſeme*, and hath 50000.
Neyto Cinocamii, Lord in *Chions*, lives at *Akandate*, and hath 50000.
Cattes Kibodo, Lord in *Ochio*, lives at *Ayns*, and hath 50000.
Samma Dayſiennocamii, Lord in *Ochia*, dwells at *Sama*, and hath 50000.
Fonda Jammatta, Lord in *Tayſima*, lives at *Iſius*, and hath 50000.
Ouckob Cangato, Lord in *Mino*, lives at *Canno*, and hath 50000.
Nayto Boyſen, Lord in *Dewano*, lives in *Fodata*, and hath 50000.
Inawa Aways, Lord in *Tamba*, lives at *Fucokuitſcamma*, and hath 50000.
Camii Afirick, Lord in *Iwamii*, lives at *Mongamii*, and hath 50000.

Cattaygiri Ismou, Lord in *Jammano*, dwells at *Taista*, and hath 40000.

Chouda Findanocami, Lord in the Province of *Jetsesen*, lives in *Maroka*, and hath 40000.

Itacaura Sanadonne Governour of the great City of trade *Miako*, hath 40000.

Matsendeyro Bougo, Lord of the Countrey of *Iwamy*, dwells at *Nakisima*, hath 40000.

Fonda Nayky, Lord in *Farima*, lives at *Fimris*, hath 40000.

Matsendeyro Tango, Lord in *Ochio*, lives at *Suckey*, and hath 40000.

Canna Maury Isonmo, Lord in *Finda*, lives at *Qumory*, and hath 40000.

Ciongock Chiury, Lord in *Tango*, lives in *Tannabe*, and hath 36000.

Outa Giuwe, Lord in *Mino*, lives at *Itsnoday*, and hath 30000.

Matsendeyro Getsio Governour of the Castle *Fonda* in *Jamaysiro*, hath 30000.

Matsendeyro Ouckon, Lord in *Farima*, lives at *Ako*, and hath 30000.

Minsonoya Ichenokamy, Lord in *Kooskie*, lives in *Chitiotayns*, and hath 30000.

Immasacka Kaynokamii, Lord in *Bitchou*, lives at *Narse*, and hath 30000.

Matsendeyro Jammatto, Lord in *Jetsesen*, lives at *Catsiamma*, and hath 30000.

Inno Fiveo, Lord in *Costie*, lives at *Amma*, and hath 30000.

Matsendeyro Tounomon, Lord in *Micaura*, lives at *Jussinda*, and hath 30000.

Akisuckis Nangako, Lord in *Niko*, lives at *Sumyno*, and hath 30000.

Saue Inaba, Lord in *Sinano*, lives at *Soua*, and hath 30000.

Foysimo Fongo, Lord in *Sinano*, lives at *Tackaboyts*, and hath 30000.

Sunganoma Owribe Lord in *Totomii* lives in *Sese* and hath 36000.
Simaes Oemanoske Lord in *Nicho* lives in *Sando Barra* and hath 30000.
Kinostag Jemmon Lord in *Bongo* lives at *Fins* and hath 30000.
Sono Tsinsima Lord in *Tsinsima* hath 30000.
Koyndo Fimano Lord in *Tongo* lives at *Okada* hath 30000.
Fondo Fimose Governor of *Nissiwo* lives at *Mikauwa* hath 30000.
Gorick Serfnokamii Lord in *Mikauwa* lives at *Fammats* and hath 30000.
Chinsio Swraga Lord in *Fitayts* dwells in *Tsuytowra* and hath 30000.
Secuma Fisen Lord in *Sinano* lives at *Iraiamma* and hath 30000.
Todo Toinsima Lord in *Mino* lives at *Canaiamma* and hath 30000.
Fonda Isumii Lord in *Fitayts* lives at *Minangaura* and hath 30000.
Tongauwa Tosa Lord in *Bitchion* lives at *Nikays* and hath 30000.
Matsendeyro Tosa Lord in the Province of *Jessesen* lives at *Konomatra* and hath 30000.
Sugysarra Foky Lord in *Fitayts* lives at *Gungowry* and hath 20000.
Kynostay Kounay Lord in *Bythion* lives at *Korousy* and hath 20000.
Matsendeyro Koysero Lord in *Farima* lives at *Farima* and hath 20000.
Inasacka Tsonokamii Governor of the Emperors Castle *Osacca* hath 20000.
Matsendeyro Kenmots Lord in *Tamba* lives at *Cammeiomme* and hath 20000.
Mastey Sake Lord in *Ochio* lives at *Sanboumats* and hath 20000.

Oumowra Mimbow Lord in *Fiſen* lives at *Daymats* and hath 20000.
Matſendeyro Iſumii Lord in *Mino* lives at *Iwamoura* and hath 20000.
Matſendeyro Chinotomy Lord in *Tſonnotami* lives at *Faymotory* 20000.
Minſuo Fayto Lord in *Micauwa* lives at *Cores* and hath 20000.
Nito Tutewaky Lord in *Chiono* lives at *Iway Fouwo* and hath 20000.
Onguſawary Wakaſa Lord in *Simoſa* lives at *Sekyda* and hath 20000.
Fithicatta Cammon Lord in *Chiono* lives at *Mawaſa* and hath 20000.
Iwaky Sirroſy Lord in *Chiono* lives at *Jedowra* and hath 20000.
Kekongo Fiongo Lord in *Dewano* lives at *Iwry* and hath 20000.
Takenacia Oenieme Lord in *Boungo* lives at *Fouway* and hath 20000.
Moury Ickenocaney Lord in *Boungo* lives at *Ounays* and hath 20000.
Wakebe Sackion Lord in *Totomii* liver at *Oumiſo* and hath 20000.
Iſſifois Inſnocamy Lord in *Totamii* lives at *Coſioys* and hath in Revenue 20000.

All theſe Sums amount to 1779000.

Here follow ſome leſſer Lords whoſe Lordſhips and places for brevity are omitted as leſſe coſiderable their names onely and Revenues being ſpecified as followeth.

Sangoro Saſſioye 20000. *Foſſa Cawa Geruba* 15000
Fory Minnaſaka 20000. *Fackyna Deyſen* 15000.
Quira Idma Sāmon 15000. *Matſendeyro Deyſen* 15000

Gotto.

Gottoways Lord of the Island *Goto*	15000.	*Fayssien Gowas*	10000.
Catayngori Iwami	15000.	*Outano Tango*	10000.
Cussima Fersingo	15000.	*Fieno Owrabi*	10000.
Coubary Tomoty	15000.	*Auby Ceynotams*	10000.
Tackamy-mondo	15000.	*Otana Monsoys*	10000.
Miake Jetsingo	15000.	*Majadda Iammetta*	10000.
Cackebe Sayngow	10000.	*Taitsibanna Sacken*	10000.
Mynangaua Chy-nomoccamii	10000.	*Ottana Caweyes*	10000.
Jaydsio Dewanocamii	10000	*Nimas Kybon*	10000.
Coungay Inaba	10000.	*Foy Arbays*	10000.
Sackan Oukon	15000.	*Fosio Mimasacka*	10000.
Conda Iwanii	15000.	*Sango Wake Sakea*	10000.
Nasno Tents	15000.	*Tenda Inaba*	10000.
Oudaura Bisen	10000	*Samnanda Nyki*	10000.
Toiammo Gidmo	10000.	*Ikenday Setseses*	10000.
Fira Ouga Gieuemon	10000	*Miangi Simsen*	10000.
Oscki Semmon	10000.	*Iton Tangow*	10000.
		Tonda Nyki	10000.

All hitherto comes to 1839 5000

Here follows the Emperours Counsellors who receive their Salleiy out of his Majesties Revenues, whose Lordships we likewise omit for brevity sake, and shall only mention their Names and Salleries.

Doyno Doydonno President	150000	*Inabe Tangedonno*	40000
Sackey Outadono Chancellor	120000	*Sackay Aumado*	30000
Nangay Syuodonno	100000	*Sakay Iamesficodono*	30000
Sackay Samikodonno	90000	*Nayda Ingado*	20000
Ando Oukiondonno	60000	*Tsitia Winbondonno*	20000
Inoto Cawiytsdo	50000	*Misson Oukicdonno*	20000
		Metsendeyro Iemou-donno	20000

Iam-

Iammanguyes Tassimandanno	20000.	*onadonna*	15000.
Matsendeyro Jurdonno	20000.	*Foritu Cangadonna*	15000.
Abe acoungo Donno	15000.	*Miura Simadonne*	10000.
Auwe Iamon Ouherodonno	15000.	*Maynda Gonoskedonne*	10000.
Ciongock Siensendone	15000.	*Missona Jamacta*	10000.
Itacaura Nislenda	15000.	*Fory Itsuocamii*	10000.
Nacsie Jucdonno	15000.	*Mury Oemonoskedonno*	10000.
Akimouta Taysi-		*Fondo Saniadonna*	10000.
		The Totall	19345000.

Moreover, his Majesty spends in his own and his Sons Table and cloths together with his Wives and their Table and Cloths, four Millions of Guilders yearly which in Sterling Moneys is 400000.

His Majesties Life-guard being all persons of quality receive in pay and pensions yearly 500000

All these vast Expences amount to 283 Millions 450 thousand Guilders or 28345000 sterling money.

What quality and authority the Supreme Magistrate hath.

THe Supreme Magistrate in *Japan* is stiled Emperor in respect of the Kings & Princes that are under his Obedience, He is Soveraign Lord and Owner of the whole land and hath

hath power (as it happened severall times during my residence there) to banish and punish with death, at pleasure, his offending Kings and Lords, and to give away their Commands and Treasures to those he fancies more deserving then they.

His dwelling place, magnificence and Train.

THe Imperial City of *Jedo*, where his Majestyresides, is very great, his Pallace contains in circuit six English miles, being encompassed with three Moats and three Counterscarps: These Ditches are very deep, being bordered on both sides with high & strong stone walls strangely angular: The first circumference, entring into the second, the second into the third, and this again into the second and first, so oddly that it is impossible, by reason of the multiplicity of the points & workes, to remember the fashion of the whole, and it is not permitted to take the plain thereof. Such as enter must go through a passage of three or four hundred paces, fortified with Eight or Nine huge gates not right over each other, but answering the points and halfe circles in the mentioned walles, betwixt every two ports there is a large plain guarded with

with a Company of Souldiers, and thoſe being paſt ſeveral heights with broad ſtone Stairs and Walls, which being likewiſe ſurmounted, ſeveral great Plains bordered with large Galleries againſt the Sun and Rain, do preſent themſelves to the common view. The Streets in the Caſtle are extraordinary large, built on each ſide with goodly Palaces, belonging to the Lords of the Kingdom: The Cattle Gates are very ſtrong, and covered on both ſides with Iron Bars, of an inch thick croſſing each other, and faſtned with Bolts of the ſame: every Gate hath his houſe large enough to contain two or three hundred Souldiers, and defenſible upon occaſion: within, in the midſt of the firſt circumference, ſtandeth his Majeſties Pallace; it is great, and conſiſteth of ſeveral dwellings beautified with Woods, to the envy of Nature, full of Ponds, Rivers, Gardens, Plains, Courts, places to Pickeer and ſport in, and moreover, contains all the dwellings of his Women. The ſecond Circumference is inhabited by the next Princes of the blood, and thoſe of the Council: And the third is poſſeſſed with the proud Palaces and dwellings of the ſeveral Kings and principal Dukes, and Lords of *Japan*. The Chiefs of leſſer note have their Houſes without the third Round, each adorned according to the Dignity and Riches of the Owners, all

almoſt gilt, ſo that this goodly Edifice appears at a diſtance not unlike a Mountain of Gold; for all the Lords (none excepted) rack themſelves to pleaſe his Majeſty by beautifying his Caſtle and their own Habitations; which their lawful Wives and Children do likewiſe enjoy after their deceaſe, continuing always under the Emperors eye as Hoſtages of their fidelity. This City of *Jedo* is nine Engliſh Miles long, and ſix broad, and is as cloſely built as any City in Europe.

The Court, how great ſoever, is daily crowded with multitudes of Nobles, who with their numerous Trains with Horſes and *Pallanquins* make the ſtreets too narrow for their paſſage. When the Emperor goeth abroad, ſometimes on Horſe-back, and ſometimes carried in a *Pallanquin*, open on every ſide, he is ordinarily accompanied with theſe Lords, who are called his Majeſties Companions; being all of them of high State and Revenues, though without Lands or other Office ſave their attendance: They are Perſons extraordinarily qualified; ſome in Muſick and ſinging, others in Phyſick, Writing, Painting, Elocution, and the like. Theſe are followed by the Life-guard, all Perſons of quality and choice, being the natural Sons of Kings and Princes, begotten their Concubines and uncapable of ſucceſſion;

and

and the Brothers, Cosins and Kindred of great Lords, which, by reason of their many Women, are very numerous: I will give you one example. The Emperors Uncle, King of *Mito*, now fifty four years old, hath as many Sons as he hath years, and many more Daughters, whose number is unknown. After these follows part of the second Life-guard, which consisting of some thousands, is so divided, that half goes a Canon shot before his Majesty, and the other half follows at the same distance.

However the number of these Souldiers be great, yet there is not one of them which hath not passed Examination, and found to be thus qualified: They must be active of body, ready in the use of all sorts of Arms, and somewhat knowing in their Studies, especially well exercised and trained, which they are to a wonder: for when his Majesty moves, they go along, Horse and Foot, cloathed all in black Silk, and ranked before, behind, and on each side of him: They march in such comely order, that never a one is observed to go out of his place; and with such silence, that they neither speak nor make any the least noise: Neither indeed do the Citizens move their lips when the Emperor passeth, nothing being then heard but the ruffling of Men and Horses: The ways and streets, are at such times, made very clean,

ſtrewed with ſand and ſprinkled with water: No doors are ſhut, and yet no body dares look out either at them or at the windows, or ſo much as ſtand in their ſhops to ſee the Emperor paſs; all muſt keep within doors, unleſs ſuch who will kneel upon mats before them. When his Majeſty goes on grogreſs to *Miako*, ſometimes the imperial City, which happens once every five or ſeven Years, to give the *Deyro* (which is the true Heir of the Kingdom and lives there) a viſit, the preparations are making an whole year before the orders are given on what day and with what train every great Man ſhall go, to the end that the ways may not be peſtered with their numbers. Half of the great Lords, according to their turns, ſet out ſome dayes before, then follows his Majeſty with his Councellers, who are followed ſome days after by the remaining Kings and Lords. The concourſe of people at ſuch a time is incredible, the whole City, though containing above One hundred thouſand Houſes, not being big enough to lodge them all, ſo that tents and huts are raiſed round about the ſame for the Souldiers and common People.

The diſtance betwixt *Jedo* and *Miako* is reckoned to be one hundred twenty five Dutch miles; At every two or three miles there is a City

City or open Town; and the whole is divided into twenty and eight Gifts or Lodgings, whereof twenty are ſtrong Caſtles: there is in every quarter, from the firſt to the laſt, a train of Gentlemen, Souldiers, Horſe, Proviſions, and all neceſſaries befitting ſo great a Prince, ordered there for his reception and entertainment. Thoſe that ſet out with him from *Jedo* ſtay in the firſt lodging; thoſe that were there remove with him to the ſecond; thoſe of the ſecond to the third, and ſo to the laſt; ſo that each train and their dependants follow his Majeſty but half a day, until all of them, according to their inſtructions, marching in order, do at length arrive at *Miako*, leaving the aforeſaid Caſtles and Lodgings to their uſual Governors and Guards. In the return from *Miako* to *Jedo* the ſame method is obſerved, all things being prepared as formerly, without trouble or confuſion.

This year 1636. there is an extraordinary great Edifice and Building at *Niako*, four days journey from *Jedo*, which is to be the Burial place of the Emperors Father, in whoſe Temple the great Copper Crown which the Eaſt-India-Company gave his Majeſty laſt year, is hung up. There is likewiſe in this territory of *Niako* a very great Caſtle, with double Moats and ſtone walls, ſtrong and ſumptuous: there are

ſeveral Palaces in it; as alſo a great number of Artificers, as Painters, Maſons, Statue-Cutters, Gold, Silver, and Iron-Smiths, Cloathiers, and all ſorts of Handy-Crafts-Men, who have their tasks ſet them, but are well paid. This Caſtle, which ſeemed to require three years for its building, was finiſhed in five moneths, though it lies far in the Country, and out of all ways, being only made to receive his Majeſty in his ceremonious viſits of his Fathers Sepulchre.

His Majeſties Treaſure conſiſts in Silver and Gold, packd in Cheſts, each weighing one thouſand *Teyls*; that is about fourſcore ordinary pounds weight: theſe are placed in the ſeveral Towers of his Caſtle together, with other legacies, with their writings, which are kept for their Antiquity. This vaſt Treaſure increaſes daily, for the Revenue of two moneths, is ſufficient to defray the Emperors expences, how great ſoever, for one whole year.

This Emperors Father being the Son of *Ongoſchio*, who poſſeſſed himſelf of the Government after the late troubles, died about the fiftieth year of his age in the year of our Saviour, 1631. being ſenſible of his end, he called his Son to him, and amongſt many other good counſels, concluded to this purpoſe; *My Kingdom and all my Treaſures are yours; but what I recommend to you, I likewiſe deliver you, The old Laws and*

Chro-

Chronicles of the Countrey, our written Sentences and Wisdom are inclosed in this Cabinet, the principal Jewels of my Crown are likewise in it; receive them all as they deserve, for they are mine, and were highly valued by your fore-Fathers. The Jewels which were accounted inestimable, are these following; whereof he gave to his eldest Son, Emperor of *Japan*,

A crooked Sable, called Jeiuky Massamme.
Another Sable, called Samoys.
Another less, called Bungo Doyssero.
A Pot, called Naraissiba.
A great t'Siapol, called Stengo.
A Manuscript, called Anckocky kindo.

To his Brother King of *Ouway* and *Astanomie*,

A Picture, called Darme, *to be viewed backwards.*
A Sable, called Massamme.

To his second Brother King of *Kinokouny*,

A Sable, called Jees Messamme.
A Picture of Frogs.

To his third Brother King of *Mito*.

A Sable, called Sandamme.
A Manuscript, called Seuche.

These six pieces bestowed on the three Brothers are but of little worth, in comparison of the six other given the Emperor, and yet they are valued at a thousand gold *Oebans*, that is

forty ſeven Teylens a piece. The Silver and Gold which his Majeſty gave to the Princes of his blood, to ſeveral of his favorite Kings, their Wives, his companion Lords, his Souldiers and Gentlemen amounted upon account to above Thirty Millions Sterling.

The preſent Emperor being after his Fathers deceaſe in full and peaceable poſſeſſion of the Government, had as then no lawful Wife, being much given to Sodomy, which moved the *Deyro* to ſend him two beautiful Ladies, (of his own kindred, and every way accompliſhed) with a deſire that he would be pleaſed to chuſe one of them, that beſt pleaſed him, for his *Midia* or Empreſs. He did indeed conſent to the *Deyro*'s requeſt, but followed his old way of living; ſo that the young Lady, being deſtitute of the converſation ſhe might reaſonably expect, was extreamly afflicted, although ſhe durſt not let it appear for fear of her Husband's diſpleaſure. At length her Foſter-Mother (a Lady of great credit, both in reſpect of her age, & in that ſhe had bred up ſo great a Princeſs) finding the Emperor one day in a good humor, adventured, though very ſubmiſſively, to ſpeak to him in behalf of her Miſtriſs; which ſhe did as followeth. *How is it poſſible that your Majeſties affections ſhould be carried away with ſuch unnatural pleaſures, and that ſo beautiful a Creature*

Creature as your own Handmaid, who would rejoyce you in bearing another like to your Self, ſhould be forgotten, certainly ſhe ought to be preferred. The Tyrant, though till now in his frolicks, grew angry, yet ſaid nothing; but riſing up retired immediately: and ſending for all the Overſeers of his Buildings, commanded them forthwith to begin and build him a Caſtle, with high Walls, Moats, Bridges, and ſtrong Gates; as alſo to adorn it within with all manner of neceſſary and ſumptuous appertainments and Lodgings. The work being finiſhed with more then ordinary haſte, the beautiful Queen, her Foſter-Mother, and all that train of young Ladies which ſhe brought with her from *Miako*, were put into it, where ſhe is kept without the ſight of men, and intirely forſaken of her Husband. The Emperor's own Foſter-Mother, who was likewiſe in great eſteem and reſpect as his own Mother, being much troubled at this action of his Majeſty, and ſeeing he had no Children, neither was like to have any whilſt he lived thus, ſent into the ſeveral Countries in his Dominions to ſearch out the moſt charming beauties that could be found; which done, ſhe diſpoſes of them in ſuch manner, that his Majeſty inſenſibly had the ſight of them all; among the reſt there was a ſlight maid, an Armorers Daughter, who did ſo far pleaſe him,

and

and gain upon his affections, that he lay with her. The great Ladies of the Court, ſeeing an Artificers Girl preferred before them all, mad with jealouſie and rage, reſolved to ſtrangle her Child in its birth, which they cruelly performed; but have hitherto kept the knowledge of ſo black a deed from the Emperor, fearing his juſt indignation and revenge.

The *Japan* Chronicles write, that this great Kingdom hath, until this hundred years, been ſtill governed by an Hereditarie Prince, which they call *Deyro*, who was in ſuch reverence with the people, that never any tumults or civil broils were raiſed againſt his Perſon or Authority: He was eſteemed ſo Sacred, that to oppoſe him was judged no leſs criminal then to fight againſt the Gods; both being inexpiable. When any difference aroſe betwixt his ſubject-Kings, ſo that they armed each againſt other, there was a *Generaliſſimo* appointed to mediate their quarrels, and puniſh, if need were, the offending or tranſgreſſing Prince: For the *Deyros* themſelves were eſteem'd ſo holy, that they never trod upon the ground; neither was the Sun or Moon ever ſuffered to ſhine upon them; nothing of their Body was diminiſhed or paired off, their hair, beard and nails being ſuffered to grow at length: When they did eat, their meat was ſtill dreſſed in new pots, and ſerved

up

up in new diſhes. They have twelve married Wives apiece, who are ſeverally honored and brought with various ceremonies to this height and ſtate: When the *Deyro* goes abroad, he is followed with theſe twelve women, each in her Coach, adorned with her Arms and Titles; theſe have their Houſes and Trains apart, all in the *Deyro*'s Palace, built in rows, ſix on a ſide, very magnificent, and beautified (as the Coaches) with their Names, Arms and Titles. The Concubines dwel likewiſe by themſelves. Supper is provided every evening in every one of theſe twelve Houſes, with voices and inſtruments, though none knows who ſhall be honored with the *Deyro*'s company. Where the *Deyro* enters, the banqueting and proviſion of the other eleven Houſes is immediatly brought thither; the other eleven Wives following with their Ladies and Muſick, to divert and make merry with her whom the *Deyro* thinks at preſent worthy of his converſation: They have their Comedies likewiſe, and ſuch other paſtimes as befit ſo ſplendid an entertainment.

When the *Deyro* is bleſſed with a Son, the hoped Succeſſor of that Empire, a Nurſe is choſen for him out of eighty of the loveliеſt Women of the Country, young and Noble Wives to Perſons of great quality and birth: Theſe Women are honored and received by the

Deyro's

Deyro's twelve Wives, and all his Women, as alſo thoſe nine principal Lords who are of his blood and kindred, and next the inheritance in caſe he have no iſſue male, with extraordinary ceremonies and feaſting. The following day forty are choſen out of the fourſcore, the which, the number decreaſing, are entertained more honorably then before; the day being ſpent in uſual and pompous diverſions, the recited forty retain the Titles and Dignities of Foſter-mothers, but are diſmiſſed from further attendance, though not without gifts and rich preſents. Ten are again choſen out of the remaining forty; out of theſe ten three; and laſtly, out of theſe three one; in all which elections the honors, ceremonies and preſents are ſucceſſively heightned. Three days after the laſt choſen Nurſe is again highly entertained; which being done, the milk is preſſed out of her breſts into the Childs mouth, which all this while is held by one of the nobleſt Ladies of the Court;). which ceremony done, the Nurſe is as then eſteemed worthy to take that Child into her cuſtody, being it hath taſted of her milk and ſubſtance.

The Ceremonies and Feaſts of their Weddings, Child-bearings, and thoſe other which they celebrate yearly, are performed with much ſtate and moſteſt pomp, and are at this day in uſe

uſe by the *Deyro*, who wants nothing, ſave that the Land is governed by another; the reaſon and hiſtory whereof we will briefly declare.

The Office of Chief General was formerly the firſt in the whole Kingdom, which ordinarily was conferred upon the *Deyro*'s ſecond Son; but having then another Son, which, for the Mothers ſake, he was willing to advance, he divided this great charge betwixt them, with command, that they ſhould govern each his three years by turn. This took for ſome time, until one of them, having taſted the ſweetneſs of ruling, was loth to quit ſo ſplendid an employment; he therefore leagues with the great Lords of the Countrey, and ſettles his power ſo faſt, during his Commiſſion, that neither the commands and entreaties of his Father, nor the violence of his offended Brother, were able to remove him: Yet this being a buſineſs of ſo ill and ſo great conſequence, and like to embroil the Kindom in diſorders, the *Deyro* reſolved to chaſtiſe his rebellious Son; which, by the aſſiſtance of his Kings, and the valour of his former General, he did. And this was the beginning, and the firſt inteſtine war that ever happened againſt the *Deyro*'s State and Authority.

The

The aforeſaid General being for his good ſervice continued in his command, ordered his buſineſs ſo well, that after his Majeſties death he made himſelf Lord of his inheritance, uſurping the Government of the Kingdom wholly into his hands; leaving yet the *Deyro*'s Court in its former ſtate and greatneſs, (his Succeſſor to his Revenue) and commanding he ſhould be uſed in all things with the ſame reſpect and ceremony as before. Theſe proceedings produced another War, another General being choſen; who having overthrown the former, uſurped to himſelf what he had condemned in his Predeceſſor the Soveraignty of the whole Land; which occaſioned a third inteſtine War more cruel and more deſtroying then the other two: For now the Kings and Governors of Provinces began to ſet up each for himſelf, ſo that the Country was well nigh ruined (Town being againſt Town, and City againſt City) by theſe diſſenting Grandees: During theſe troubles it fell out that a bold active Fellow, formerly a private Souldier, thinking it beſt fiſhing in troubled waters, reſolved to put in for a ſhare; Having therefore got together forty or fifty Companions, as deſperate as himſelf, he in a little time, what with his good fortune and good conduct, grew very numerous and conſiderable, and having taken ſeveral Caſtles

Caſtles and Towns, drove likewiſe all that ſtood him, out of the field; ſo that in leſs then three years he became abſolute and Soveraign Lord of the whole Kingdom. He, as the other Uſurpers, left the *Deyro* in quiet poſſeſſion of all he formerly enjoyed (except the Government) which he held himſelf; and was afterwards by the ſaid *Deyro*, (unable to vindicate his own right) acknowledged and crowned Emperor of *Japan* with unimaginable pomp and magnificence.

This Emperor, whoſe name was *Taycko*, being no leſs prudent then brave, fearing leſt the great Lords of his Kingdom, reflecting upon the lowneſſe of his former condition might contemn his preſent Authority, as diſdaining to be governed by one leſs then themſelves, thought it beſt to keep them in action, the better to divert them from cavilling anew; he therefore ſent thoſe Kings and Chiefs, that he feared moſt, with an Army of ſixty thouſand Men, to war againſt *Corea*, & reduce that Country to the obedience of the *Japan* Empire. Theſe he held there with kind meſſages, and reiterated promiſes of ſuccours ſeven whole years, commanding they ſhould not return till they had ſubdued & made conqueſt of all: But the Army longing for their Countrey, their Wives and Children, and deſpairing of a return,

turn, mutined; and destroying, burning, and plundering all they could meet, endeavoured the satisfaction of their pretended wrongs by the desolation of others. The *Coreans*, unable to endure this violence any longer, sent an Ambassador to the Emperour *Taycko*, who, being admitted into his Court, found means to take away his life by poyson, in revenge of the manifold wrongs his Country had suffered by the injurious ambition of this Prince. The Kings and Lords, commanding the Army in *Corea*, hearing of their Emperor's death, resolved to quit that Country, and to return every one to his own, in expectation and hopes who amongst them might be chosen to succeed in the Soveraignty.

The Emperor being removed, left one only Son behind him, called *Fideri*, about six years of age; but before he died he appointed him a Governor, one of the greatest Lords of his Country, by name *Ongoschio*; one whom he had obliged by his favors, and relied upon above all others for his fidelity: To this Person he delivered his Infant-Son, with command, that when he was fifteen years of age, he should cause him to be crowned by the *Deyro*, with the usual pomps and Ceremonies, as Emperor of *Japan*. *Ogoschio* being thus declared Governor of the Princes Person, was likewise by

Taycko's

Taycko's will; and the conſent of his Subject-Kings, made Regent of the Kingdom during the minority, which for ſome time he peaceably ruled in his Maſter's name: But growing now weary of ſubordination, he quickly forgot his promiſe made to *Taycko*, and ſealed with his blood; *Fideri* being therefore to be removed, to make place for his greatneſs, he aſſaulted him firſt in his reputation, by laying thoſe things to his charge he was no way guilty of; amongſt others, he accuſed him of diſtruſt of his Tutor, and that he made private preparations to extort the Government out of his hands by force, before his time; he laid likewiſe ambition, and an untimely deſire of honor to his charge, in that he ſuffered himſelf to be adored as Emperor before he was inveſted with the Power; and that the Kings and Lords of the Realm, had done him that reverence which was only due to a received Emperor. But armed ambition needs not many excuſes, *Ongoſchio* muſters his united forces in the Kingdom of *Surnga*, and marching thence to *Onſacka*, where *Fideri* held his Court, beſieged him with all his might. *Fideri*, having held out three moneths, being now reduced to great extremity, would prevent his ruine by a ſordid ſubmiſſion; he therefore ſent to *Ongoſchio* to beg his life, quitting all his pretence to the

Empire, and desiring only to survive a Vassal to the Conqueror. But *Ongoschio* refused all manner of capitulation; and though *Fideri* sent out his Wife, who was his Adversaries Daughter, to supplicate his safety, she could not be heard of her Father. The Castle being taken, the Palace where *Fideri* had retired himself with his Mother and chief Friends, was encompassed with great posts and pallisadoes, and much wood being piled up about it, the unfortunate Prince, and all them that were with him, were miserably burnt and consumed with fire. *Ogneschio* having thus destroyed his Master, put all them to death who were considerable, and of his party; bringing the whole Empire under his obedience by force, as *Taycko* had done before him. The year following *Ongoschio* died, not enjoying long what his violence had so quickly got him; his Son *Coubo* or *Coubosama*, succeeded him, who was Father to this present Emperor *Chiongon*, now reigning.

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The number of his Souldiers, and their Arms.

THe Revenue which is divided amongſt the Kings and governing Lords, amounts (as is already demonſtrated) to 18400000 Coquyns, or Pounds ſterling; according to which account, each of them muſt, proportionably, entertain a ſelect company of Souldiers, always in readineſs for the Emperor's ſervice; ſo that he who hath a thouſand Coquyns yearly, muſt bring into the field, when ever he is commanded, twenty Foot Souldiers & two Horſe-Men. Thus the Lord of Fiarmor, who hath 60000 Coquyns a year, muſt entertain, as he eaſily may, one thouſand two hundred Foot, and one hundred and twenty Horſe, beſide Servants, Slaves, and what more is neceſſary for the Train. The number therefore of Souldiers, which the Emperor hath continually in ſervice, entertained by the aforeſaid Kings and Lords, amount to three hundred ſixty eight thouſand Foot, and thirty ſix thouſand eight hundred Horſe. Beſides theſe his Majeſty hath one hundred thouſand Foot, and twenty thouſand Horſe, which he paies out of his own Revenue, and keeps for the Garriſoning

ing of his Caſtles and Forts, and the ſecuring of his own Perſon. Moſt of the Lords, eſpecially the moſt powerful, do ordinarily keep double the number of Souldiers; and many more then they are obliged to by their tax; and all to out-vie each other, and the better to ingratiate themſelves with their common Maſter, as hath appeared at large in the late War. The Horſe-Men are all harnaſſed, though the Foot have no other defenſive arms then a Head-piece; the Horſe are armed, ſome with ſhort Guns, ſome with ſhort Pikes, others with Bows and Arrows, and all with Swords or Sables. The Foot have likewiſe Sables, Pikes, and Halberts, and thoſe that are divided into Companies Fire-Arms: every five Souldiers have their Commander armed as they are; five of theſe Chiefs have likewiſe thoſe who command them; and their five and twenty, and twice twenty five, make a compleat Company, commanded by two Heads, who, with their fifty are commanded by a Captain in chief: five of theſe ordinary Companies are again commanded by another; and fifty Companies have likewiſe their principal Officer; the ſame method and order being held under the Horſe. His Majeſty may eaſily and exactly know how many living ſouls, how many Souldiers, and how many Citizens he hath in his whole King-

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dom; for the Houſes being built by five and five, and every five having their Commander who muſt regiſter all them that are born and die within their Juriſdiction, and report the ſame to their Lords, who again are obliged to tell it to their Kings, and they to two Officers appointed by the Emperor for that purpoſe.

The Authority of his Councellors and Vaſſals.

THe Senators, or Councellors, hath each his Office apart, excepting only four, who are the principal and chief Miniſters of State; theſe come daily to Court, and diſpatch all Publick Affairs by his Majeſties directions; and are (as likewiſe the other minor Senators) highly reſpected and honored by the ſubordinate Kings and Lords: The chief of theſe have two hundred thouſand pounds a year, the middle half ſo much, and the leſſer thirty, twenty, and ten thouſand pounds *per An.* Their Authority and Power is confined to the Emperor's Pleaſure, none of them (upon pain of Baniſhment or worſe) daring to adviſe a ſecond time, after Anſwer once received from the Prince. His Majeſtie chuſes theſe his Councellors out of thoſe Gentlemen that have ſerved well

well and long, having been bred up in the Court with him, and had the addreſs to pleaſe him moſt. All the Affairs of the Kingdom paſs theſe mens hands; but they are very circumſpect in obſerving his Majeſties eye and pleaſure, before they adventure to propoſe advice or anſwer, and all to continue in his good grace and favour; nay, they are ſo fearfully ſlaviſh, that they approve of whatever the Prince propoſes, and though the ruine of a Province depended upon it, will not ſeem to have ſentiments differing from his.

The quality of his Princes and Lords, and their might.

THe Revenues of the commanding Lords, as appears by their ſpecifications, are very great, and yet they have, by reaſon of their vaſt expences, enough to do with their moneys: Firſt, they are obliged, though never ſo far diſtant from Court, to reſide ſix moneths every year in the City of *Jedo*, to wait upon the Emperor. Thoſe of the North and Eaſt come one half year, which being expired, they are relieved by them of the South and Weſt; who depart with his Majeſties leave, after much Ceremony. Feaſting, and receiving of Preſents back

back to their ſeveral Countries. Thus they take their turns at Court, which is infinite expenſive, by reaſon of their numerous trains, ſome of them travelling to and fro with one, two, three, four, five, and ſix thouſand men. The Lord of *Firando*, (where our Eaſt-India-Company hath a Lodge) being but one of the leaſt among them, travels with three hundred Men, Gentlemen and others; and hath in his two Houſes at *Jedo* above a thouſand Perſons, Men and Women. Thus each Lord lives according to his Means and Dignity, rather profuſe then ſparing; ſo that the City ſwarms with Men and Attendance, which makes the Markets high and very dear. Their ſumptuous Buildings, their gorgeous cloathing of their Servants, eſpecially their Women and their Attendants, their Feaſts, their Preſents, and other extraordinary Expences of that proud and pompous Court, do ſufficiencly keep under theſe great Men; for their Charges ſurmount their Revenues, and they are found moſt commonly to be much behind hand. Beſides all this his Majeſties orders, the making of ſeral publick Buildings, as High-Ways, Channels, Caſtles, and the like, all which are divided amongſt the aforeſaid Lords then at Court, each his ſhare; which they cauſe to be made, without reſpect of expence, to the envy of

each other with all ſpeed and induſtry imaginable. The chief Lords when they build new Palaces for themſelves, do beſides the ordinary Gates and Doors, cauſe another great and ſumptuous Port to be made, beautified with Statues, and wrought all with hard Wax, or Indian Lack, and richly gilt. This Entry being finiſhed, it is covered all over with Plancks, to keep the Sun and Rain from it; and continued ſo incloſed and ſhut up, until ſuch time as the Emperour honours that Houſe with his preſence: After his Majeſty hath paſſed and re-paſſed through the ſaid Gate, it is wholly ſhut up and never opened more; no man being afterwards found worthy to go in or out at the Door, which hath been graced with the Princes entry. His Majeſty doth go but once to feaſt in one Houſe, all the preparations for his entertainment being made ready long before, with great care and coſt; every thing being adorned with his Arms, and afterwards never uſed more, but preſerved with great devotion, in remembrance that the Emperour did vouchſafe to eat in that Houſe. His Majeſty is always invited three years before hand, in which time the preparations fit for ſo royal a Gueſt are making. After the Emperour hath been there one day, the Princes of his blood, his Councellors, and the Kings, and great Lords

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are treated with incredible magnificence three whole Moneths together. Briefly, the building of ſuch a Palace, and the treating of ſo great a Prince, is ſufficient to make a rich King poor; and yet theſe ruining profuſions are not to be avoided. When his Majeſty goes a Hern-hunting, and hath taken ſome of thoſe Birds, being of great eſteem in thoſe Countries, he ſometimes beſtowes one of them upon one Favorite or other, which Preſent coſts the Receiver at leaſt a half years Revenue: for the Gift is ſo highly valued, having been taken by the Emperor's Hawks, and given with his own hands, that the whole City ſeems to partake of the joy, it being abundantly teſtified by Feaſting and Preſents.

The Lord of *Satſuma* had lately the honour to entertain the Emperour in his new Palace, but with better fortune then any of his greateſt Princes; for his Majeſty was ſo well pleaſed with his treatment, that he made him a Preſent (of Beans, as he pleaſed to term it, for his Horſes) worth threeſcore thouſand Pounds a year.

The Emperor diſpoſes of the marriages of his great Lords, who entertain their Wives which are ordered them by him with extraordinary carreſſings; they receive and lodge them in their beſt Palaces, and allow them ten, twenty,

ty, &c, to a hundred and more Gentlewomen and Maid-Servants, according to their abilities, to wait upon them, when they go abroad to visit their Friends, which is allowed but once a year. Their Women follow them in shut *Pallacquins*, forty or fifty in number, each of them with two Chamber-Maids, on each side of their Pallacquins one. Those Pallacquins are very richly made, wrought with Lack and inlaid with Gold, carried some nine foot from each other in good order, with great modesty. The Wife that is given by the Emperor, is the Mother of those Children which succeed in their Father's honors; but if she prove Childless, or have no Heir-male, the Kingdom, or Government, is ordinarily bestowed upon a Stranger to that Race and Family. Every Lord may have as many Concubines as he pleases, or can maintain, whereby Children indeed are multiplied, though none inherit but those that are legitimate. These Lords enjoy all the pleasures they can imagine, in the fruition of their Women, Houses, Gardens, Ponds, Walks, Musick, Plays, and the like. They suffer no Men to come into their Wives Houses upon any pretence whatsoever, unless it be some few who are next of blood, and that but very seldom; these are kept close and careful; and all their Women, young and old, great and of lower

lower condition, must thus spend their time, without any manner of conversation with men; the least suspition is punisht with death; it being no less criminal to be thought ill, then to be really so. These Attendants are choice Maids, bred up in an humble and honest manner, and so observant of their Master and Lady, that they neither speak nor smile, but as they are directed by their eye or motion. They are cloathed in Silks of several colours, and distinguished into several orders; some wear red vestments, with green girdles and green headtires; others yellow, with violet girdles and tires; others white, with red girdles and tires; and others, other such colours as they best fancy, most embroydered with Gold. Every order hath its Officers, consisting ordinarily of sixteen Persons, who are seated according to their quality, and served according to the custom of their Country. Those young Persons are all of Noble Extraction, fair, well bred, and not entertained into this service for less time then twenty years; some, nay most, for their whole lives. Many are received into service at the age of four or five and twenty, some at the age of twenty eight or thirty; and are bestowed in marriage by their Lords, upon some of their Gentlemen, or Officers, according to their merit; whom he then honours with an in-

increaſe of ſtipend, beſides preſent ſums of money. Thoſe who arrive to the age of above thirty years in their ſervice, do ordinarily ſpend their whole lives there, being preferred to Offices under their Ladies. All the married Women, of what quality ſoever, are trained up by ſuch rules, that they buſie not themſelves with the affairs of this life, or trouble their Husbands with unneceſſary queſtions or deſires, to avoid harſh returns, which are the conſequences of any demands of that kind. When ever the Husbands viſit their Wives, which is never but for their own diverſion, they diveſt themſelves of all ſorts of buſineſs, not reſuming the conſideration of it till they quit the place, where the whole treatment is entirely relating to what is amorous, as Banquets, Muſick, Dancing, Plays, and the like, wherein the Women have an extraordinary dexterity and addreſs in pleaſing their Husbands. The reaſon they give (eſpecially the great Ones) why their Wives are kept thus retired, and ſequeſtred from the company of Men and buſineſs, is firſt, as they ſay, Becauſe the Woman is to ſerve the Man, to divert him, to bring him Children, to give them education, and for no other end; further, to avoid jealouſie and its conſequences, of vexation, blood and war, which they have gathered from former experience,

rience, when their Women had more liberty; as alſo from tragical examples, recorded in their Hiſtories, of divers who have been deceived and ruined by them. Their Women are ordinarily true and modeſt, even to bluſhing, whereof I ſhall inſtance an example or two: There was in the Kingdom of *Fingo* a Perſon of quality, who had a Wife of extraordinary beauty; the King cauſed him to be ſecretly murthered, and after ſome time ſent for his Lady to Court: She obeyed; but knowing her Husband was made away by his practices, anſwered his importunities in theſe words; Mighty Prince, I ought in reaſon to rejoyce and account my ſelf extream happy, in being thought worthy to ſerve your Majeſty, yet permit me to affirm, that at the ſame inſtant you approach me, I will kill my ſelf; but if you ſhall pleaſe to grant what I ſhall deſire of you, I will give my ſelf up to be your humble Handmaid: Allow me then the reſpite of thirty days, wherein I may mourn for my Husband, and cauſe him to be interred according to his Dignity; after which, that I may, upon the Tower of your Caſtle, make a Feaſt for my Husband's Friends, with them to put an end to my mourning. The King condeſcended to this requeſt; but wondred at the curioſity of it. The Ceremony being performed, at which the

the King was preſent, and in a good humour well heated with wine and his paſſions) the Lady withdrew to the ſide of the Gallery, as if ſhe would have repoſed, and upon a ſudden threw her ſelf over the walls, and broke her neck, in the preſence of the King and thoſe that were with him.

The other is of a certain Lord, who ſent about through his dominions for ſome young Gentlewomen to attend upon his Lady, and amongſt others found a poor Widows Daughter, who was ſo acceptable to her Lord, that he received her into the number of his Concubines. Her Mother being reduced to great wants, wrote a Letter to her, wherein ſhe at large ſet forth her poverty, and the miſerableneſs of her condition. While the Daughter was buſie in reading of it, her Lord comes in, and ſhe endeavouring to hide the Letter, he perceived it, and in great choler would know what the Letter was, from whom and from whence it came? ſhe, aſhamed to diſcover the poverty of her Mother, refuſed to tell him; whereupon he endeavored to force it from her, which ſhe to prevent, put it into her mouth, and would have ſwallowed it; but not being able to get it down, it ſtuck in her throat and choaked her. The Lord, mad with rage and jealouſie, cauſed her immediately to be cut up,

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to ſearch for the Letter; but finding the innocency of it, and that it contained only the diſcovery of her Mothers poverty, was ſo tranſported with grief and ſorrow, that he could not refrain his tears; and in the ſenſe of it, ſent for his Concubines Mother, who at this preſent lives in the houſe with him, in much honor and eſteem. The modeſty of theſe females extends to their private converſation, ſo that they are very careful, even in the preſence of their next of kindred, not to let fall any word which may ſavour of the leaſt lightneſs or incontinency; not daring to ſpeak of marriage, though lawful, nor the way to it; and if any unſeemly diſcourſe, though but in appearance, ſhould happen, the youngeſt ariſe immediately and quit the company.

They honour and love their Parents even to devotion, believing firmly, that thoſe who do the contrary, cannot eſcape the vengeance of the Gods; this piety extends to them that gave them their lives after their death; the aniverſary of their deceaſe being ceremoniouſly obſerved, by their abſtaining upon that day from eating any thing that hath life or motion.

But to return from whence we digreſſed; the Revenue of the governing Lords is diverſe and various; ſome Countries produce Corn and Fruit, others Gold and Silver; ſome again Braſs,

Brass, Iron, Tin, Lead, and others again curious Manufactures, Hemp, Cotton, Silk, and the like; all which are calculated, valued, and perfectly known to the Emperor.

These ruling Princes have each of them a Chancellor, imposed by the Emperour, presented ordinarily with this following complement: *Sir, your Government is great, and your Subjects are many; and therefore I have thought fit, out of the care I have of your good, to appoint you an Assistant, being a person wise and trusty, bred up under my eyes, and in my house; employ therefore his services, and let it not be unacceptable to you that we study your welfare.* This person is received with great thanks, ceremony, feasting and presents; and (though an open Spie upon his Master's actions,) treated with much honour and respect. These Chancellors are men knowing in affairs, and such as the Emperor absolutely confides in. The more to insure them to his interest, he causes them not only to promise and swear, but to sign likewise with their bloods, that they shall take exact account of every particular, great and small, that may concern the State; and also keep a dayly account, or Diary, of their Lords lives and actions, and send the same over to him by expresses. None of the Kings or Lords can or may do any thing of themselves, the Govern-

Government of their Territories and Affairs being at the diſpoſal of theſe men, as their principal Miniſters.

Moſt of theſe Lords entertain alwaies by them ſome choice Perſons for parts and underſtanding, only to obſerve their actions, and tell them of their faults; which they muſt exactly do without reſpect of flattery; for they ſay, no man can ſee his own errours ſo well as another, eſpecially thoſe who are called to govern, as more ſubject to the tranſports of paſſion and pride, they had therefore rather hear of their faults by their truſty Servants to correct them, then to be ill ſpoken of behind their backs; and for this reaſon theſe ſecret Monitors are alwaies near their Lords perſons, eſpecially at Feaſts and publique meetings, obſerving their words and leaſt actions. Theſe Lords though they have their particular names, yet they are ordinarily called by that of their Government or reſidence; further every man hath three names, the children a childiſh, when they are men a more manly, and being become old get others ſuitable to the decays of nature and age: The ſurnames are firſt pronounced, for being their parents were before them, they think it but reaſonable that their names ſhould likewiſe precede. When one of theſe Lords die, ten, twenty, or thirty of his Vaſſals kill

themſelves to bear him company: many that do ſo, oblige themſelves to it during their Lords lives; for having received ſome more then ordinary grace and favour from him, and fancying themſelves better beloved then their companions, they think it a ſhame to ſurvive their Benefactour; and therefore in return of their thanks they uſually add, *My Lord, the number of your faithful Slaves is great, but what have I done to merit this honour? this Body, which is indeed yours, I offer you again, and promiſe it ſhall not live longer then yours; I will not ſurvive ſo worthy a Patron.* For confirmation of this, they drink a bowl of Wine together, which is ſolemn; for no covenants thus made are to be broken. Thoſe that thus bind themſelves cut their own bellies, and do it as followeth: They aſſemble their neareſt kindred, and going to Church, they celebrate the parting feaſt upon mats and carpets in the midſt of the Plain, where having well eat and drank, they cut up their bellies, ſo that the guts and entrails burſt out; and he that cuts himſelf higheſt, as ſome do even to the throat, is counted the braveſt fellow, and moſt eſteemed. If the Lord cauſe a wall to be built, either for the King or himſelf, his Servants often-times beg they might have the honour to lie under, out of a belief, that what is founded upon a living

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mans fleſh, is ſubject to no misfortune: This requeſt being granted, they go with joy unto the deſigned place, and lying down there, ſuffer the foundation ſtones to be laid upon them, which with their weight, immediately bruiſe and ſhiver them to pieces.

His Majeſty hath ſeveral Caſtles ſtrong and great, whereof thoſe of *Oſanna* and *Jedo* are the moſt magnificent. The Countries belonging to the Kings and great Lords, are not much travelled by our Nation, ſo that we have no knowledge of them; only I am informed that they have mighty Towns and Caſtles: None of theſe Cities are walled, though their ſtreets are regular every one, and equally long; the ends of them ſhut with Gates, and guarded with Watchmen by night or times of danger. The Country waies are marked at every miles end with ſtones or ſtakes, being put up for that purpoſe. In their Towns and Villages every ſtreet hath two Magiſtrates, who take care for their precinct, & muſt give an account for whatever happens in them; and becauſe none through clowniſhneſs, or otherwiſe, may approach the Lord Governour with diſreſpect, they have Prolocutors appointed them, by whoſe intervention all leſſer matters are compaſſed, the more difficult being reſerved for the deciſion of the ordinary Judge.

Their manner of Justice.

THe Cities and Towns have no revenue at all, each of them depending on their Lord; neither have the Citizens, Merchants, Gentry or Commonalty any Tolls, Excise, or Contributions; they pay likewise nothing, except it be for the ground their houses stand upon, which is the Lords; and for that they give from forty shillings to two yearly, according to the greatness of their houses. Every house must find a man upon occasion, which happeneth three or four times a year, though but for an hour, and sometimes for half a day or so. The King, or Lord, hath the whole product of the Land and Sea; the Gentlemen and Souldiers live upon that portion their Lord assigns them out of the Country; the Merchant subsists by his gain; the Citizens and Artificers by their trades; and the Labourers by that portion which their Lord allows them out of the fruit of the earth.

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What Crimes they puniſh moſt ſeverely.

EVery individual, from the Emperour to the meaneſt Gentleman, hath the right of Juſtice over hisSubjects and Servants. His Majeſty hath his ordinary Judges in all his Cities and Towns. When a Gentleman, or Souldier, is condemned to die, he is allowed the honour to kill himſelf, by cutting up his belly with his own hands; whereas the Citizen, Merchant, and meaner perſons, ſuffer by the common Executioner. A Merchant, how rich ſoever, is not eſteemed at all, becauſe they ſay, He liveth by his lying, making no conſcience to couzen and deceive the People for his filthy lucre ſake: The Citizen and Artificer are likewiſe undervalued, becauſe they are but Servants to the Commonalty, and forced to live by their labours and manufactures: Neither are the Country People of more account, becauſe of the miſerableneſs of their condition, being ſubject to perpetual ſlavery and toyling. But the Gentlemen and Souldiers, who are numerous, are honoured and feared; and they do nothing, being maintained and ſerved by the Merchants, by the Citizens,

and by the Country Labourers. Every crime, how ſmall ſoever, is puniſhed with death; eſpecially theft, although but to the value of a penny; gaming, and playing for money, is no leſs hainous then murther: and all other Delinquents which deſerve the rigour of Juſtice with us in Europe, undergo the ſame penalty here. Every one ſuffers for his own faults, except the matter be treaſonable, and then the Father, Brothers and Sons muſt likewiſe ſuffer; and their goods be confiſcated; and the Mothers, Sifters, and Daughters be given away and ſold for ſlaves. Theſe confiſcations are not due to the Emperour, King, or Lord in whoſe Territories they happen, but are reſerved under account for publick uſes, as building of Churches, making of Bridges, repairing of High-waies, and the like.

It happened in my time, that a proud fellow preſented his ſervice to a a poor Gentleman, demanding of him, by reaſon of his addreſs and parts more wages then he knew the Gentleman could give; who vexed at the youths impertinencies, and perceiving he jeered him, replied with a compoſed countenance, *Friend, you demand indeed much wages, but being I think you will deſerve it, and that you are pleaſing in my eyes, I am content to receive you into*

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my ſervice. Three daies after his Maſter ſent him on an errand; being returned, he was accuſed for ſtaying out ſo long, ſo as no excuſes would ſave his life; being forced to pay for his inſolency under this colourable pretence. The Lord of *Finando* did lately cauſe three Gentlewomen of his Ladies attendants, to be ſhut up in Cheſts ſpiked with nails on every ſide, becauſe one of them had had ſome converſation with a certain Gentleman, (who was likewiſe condemned to die, and his belly cut up) and that the other two, knowing of their companions practices, had not diſcovered them. Who ever finds his Wife in a lockt or ſhut chamber with another man, may lawfully kill them both; the which, though very rarely, hath indeed happened: If the Husband be abſent, then his Father, Brother, Son, or next of kin, nay a Servant may do it; ſo that Adultery is ſeldom or never heard of amongſt them. A certain Gentleman, being jealous of his Wife, pretended a journey from home; but returning unexpectedly back, found another Man with his Wife in the chamber; tranſported with jealouſie and revenge, he inſtantly kills the amazed Gallant, and binding his Wife to a ladder, let her ſtand there thus chained all night. Next morning he ſent to invite all his and her kindred, Men and Women,

to dinner; which however contrary to their cuſtoms, each ſex feaſting and eating alwaies apart, was through his importunity aſſented unto. The Women, who ſat in a chamber by themſelves, ignorant of what had happened, enquired often for the Lady of the houſe; to which her Husband made anſwer, that ſhe was buſie in ordering their entertainment, ſhe would wait upon them immediately. The Gueſts being all ſat, Men and Women together, and dinner half done, the Husband went and cut off the privities of his ſlain Rival, and putting them into a covered Box of Lack, or Wax, deckt with flowers, unbound his Wife, and cloathing her in a winding ſheeet, with her hair looſe and hanging over her ſhoulders, gave it her, ſhe not knowing what was in it, adding, *Go and carry it to our Friends at dinner, and try whether for their ſakes I may not pardon you alſo.* The poor Woman, half dead and diſtracted with fear, did as her Husband commanded her, and entering in this dreadful poſture, fell on her knees before the company, and opened the Box, at ſight whereof ſhe ſunk down in a ſwound, and being cloſe followed by her Husband, had her head immediatly ſtruck off by him; at which horrid ſight the afrighted Gueſts ran all out of the houſe.

Thoſe

Thoſe faults which are accounted criminal amongſt them, are the breaking of the Emperours commands and orders; Peculation, or robbing his Majeſties Revenues; falſe coyning, burning of houſes, rapes, and the ill governing of thoſe in Authority; he that is guilty of any of theſe crimes, is puniſhed in his perſon and poſterity; if it be a Woman that hath offended, ſhe ſuffers alone; nor ſhall ſhe die for anothers ſin, only be given away or ſold. Their puniſhments are roſting, burning, crucifying both waies, drawing with four Bulls, and boyling in Oyle and Water. A man who was to deliver Wood and Stone to his Majeſties Factours, had corrupted ſome Souldiers and others appointed for the ſervice; this being diſcovered, the Overſeers were ordered to cut up their bellies; but the Merchant was crucified with his heels upward. This man, being a man of parts, was in good eſteem with the Councellors and great ones at Court, and however it be, that it is not lawful to intercede for a criminal, yet the aforeſaid Grandees, out of pity and affection to the Delinquent, having conſulted together, adventured to ſupplicate his Majeſty in his behalf; whereupon they received this following anſwer. *I have underſtood your deſires with wonder; but that which troubles me moſt, is,*

is, that the unreaſonableneſs of the demands obliges me to ſuſpect your judgements; ſhall not the evil-doer die? whence then proceedeth this your requeſt? or are your hearts likewiſe corrupted with gifts and gold? change your purpoſes, and let juſtice have her courſe, and then if any amongſt you deſire riches, let them go to my Treaſure and ſatisfie themſelves; go, I give you full liberty to do it. This reply did ſo ſtartle the Petitioners, that they retired, not daring to make any further inſtance, or ſpeak one word more.

They have a peculiar method in puniſhing of crimes, which I will alſo relate: It happened (as it did in my time) that a Gentleman, appointed Governour of a Lordſhip near the imperial City of *Jedo*, had forced his Tributaries to pay more then they were obliged to by their ordinary Tax and Contributions, with which ſurplus he had Lorded it for ſome time; but this Exaction continuing, the Inhabitants ſupplicated his Majeſty for relief; whereupon the Gentleman, together with his whole race were ordered to cut up their bellies. The ſaid Governour had a Brother in the ſervice of the King of *Fingo*, two hundred and forty Dutch miles Weſtward from *Jedo*; an Uncle at *Satſuma*, twenty miles further; a Son in the ſervice of King *Kinocoumy*; another

another Son in the ſervice of the King of *Maſſamme*, an hundred and ten miles Eaſtward; a third Son with the Governour of the Imperial Caſtle of *Inquano*; with two Brothers more, that were Souldiers in his Majeſties Guards at *Jedo*; his youngeſt Son was upon extraordinary ſollicitations beſtowed upon a Merchants Daughter, who was an only Child and very rich: All theſe Perſons, however Eaſt and Weſt diſtant from each other, died in one day, and on the ſame hour; for Poſts were ſent to all places where theſe unhappy men did live, with orders to their Governours, that they ſhould cauſe them upon the eighth day of the eighth Moneth, (the day limited for their execution) when the Sun was in the South, to cut up their bellies, according to the uſual manner; which was exactly performed. The aforeſaid Merchant, well known to our Society, dwelt at *Oſaua*, but died for grief; and his Daughter, unwilling to ſurvive her Husband, would (if ſhe had not been prevented) have killed her ſelf; yet ſhe could not be hindred to deſtroy that life, which was but loathſome to her after ſo dear a loſs; for ſhe abſtained wholly from eating, and expired (concluding this fatal Tragedy with her own) the eleventh day after. The People of this Nation, eſpecially the Women, die with ſtrange con-

conſtancy and aſſurance, without any the leaſt emotion of ſorrow or weakneſs.

Lyes are likewiſe puniſhed with death, eſpecially if told to Magiſtrates or Lords; neither will any Maſter pardon that crime in his Servant. Theſe aforeſaid manners of putting to death, belong to the Gentry, the Souldiers, Merchants, Citizens and Peaſants; but the Kings and tranſgreſſing Lords are otherwiſe puniſhed: There is a little Iſland, three miles in compaſs, and diſtant forty two miles from *Jedo*, called *Faitſnichina*, ſo ſtill and environed with rocks and precipices, that no ſhips of burthen can approach it: it was at firſt attempted in very calm weather by certain deſperate fellows, who climbing up thoſe rocks, made a ſhift to get on the tops of them; and having pulled up with ropes materials and neceſſary inſtruments for their purpoſe, faſtned beams and ſtrong poſts in the rocks in ſuch wiſe, that by the help of pullies and ropes, and ſtrong hanging nets, they can wind the boats up ſome fathoms out of the water, and ſo ſecure them againſt the toſſing of the Sea; whoſe leaſt agitation throws them againſt the Iſland, and daſhes them in pieces, as it happened to the loſs of many a man before this expedient was found. The Iſland it ſelf is very ſtony and barren, arrable but in ſome few places; it

it is hither that the offending Grandees are baniſhed, and cloſe kept from all manner of communication or correſpondency from without, with ſtrict guards of Souldiers, who have their ſtations upon all the ſeveral corners of the Iſland for that purpoſe: Theſe Guards, if wind and weather permit, are relieved every moneth preciſely, at which time they receive proviſion for themſelves, as alſo for the exiled, which is but a little Rice, a few Beans, ſome Roots, and other ſuch hard fare: they lodge in little low hutches, which cannot protect them from either againſt the Summers heat or Winters cold; and they muſt work, and gather Silk from the Worms, which are fed and kept there, as alſo card, ſpin, and weave ſuch a portion as is yearly ordered them by their task-Maſters.

In the year one thouſand ſix hundred thirty one, when his late Majeſty died, all ſorts of Priſoners, under the obedience of the Japaniſh Empire, none excepted, were all (in one day and hour) ſet at liberty, and money given to thoſe that were poor to begin the world again with.

What Divine Service they use.

THis Nation is neither very superstitious nor very devout; they seldom or never pray; and such are counted for religious, who go to Church once in a moneth; they sometimes use the word *Nammanda*, which is the name of one of their chiefest Deities. The Priests preach ordinarily three times every year, being only then attended by those of his Sect; others of another belief, make use of their Hermits in their sickness, who read and mumble (as if they were possessed) their Orisons for twenty four hours together over the Patient, without being understood of any; for all their Divinity as well as their Physick, are writ and printed in an elevated style, not to be fathomed or comprehended but by the learned.

What Churches they have.

THey have many Temples and Churches dedicated to their Idols, every one of them inhabited by their Priests, two, ten, or twenty, according to their greatness and revenues.

What

What Priests they entertain.

THeir Priests do but little, they read sometimes before their Idols, and bury the dead, who are most of them first burnt, their ashes being afterwards committed to the earth with their usual ceremonies.

What Sects are prevalent among them.

THey have twelve Sects in all; the Priests of the first eleven eat nothing that hath lived, nor may marry: when they offend by transgressing their order, the Delinquent is buried to the middle in the High-way, every one that passeth, and is no Gentleman, being obliged to give him a stroak in the neck with a wooden saw, ready for the purpose; so that the miserable Priest is two or three daies, sometimes more, in this languishing condition before he can die. The twelfth Sect is the most esteemed and most honourable of all; their Priests marry, and they may eat of what ever the Sea or Earth produces, according to their several appetites. This Sect, called *Icko*, or *Ickois*, is the most superstitious of all, and

and hath its Pope, or Head, reſpected and ſerved with the ſame honour with their Kings. When this high Prieſt paſſeth through the ſtreets, carried in his *Pallacquin*, they of his faith, worſhip and pray to him; and this indeed is the richeſt and eaſieſt order amongſt them, and moſt countenanced. Some of their Churches are priviledged and endowed by the Emperour, or Lords, in whoſe Territories they ſtand; but the reſt are maintained by the common people: and as each particular man amongſt the Papiſts hath his particular ghoſtly Father, ſo the Inhabitants here have theirs; as alſo their Churches; which they aſſiſt with their charity to the utmoſt of their powers. Each of theſe twelve Sects hath its particular Faith; ſome believes that the ſoul is immortal, that the fleſh is earth; and that the ſpirit of man ſhall live in another world, happy or miſerable, according to what he hath done in this. Others think that there is no ſuch thing as a ſeparable ſoul, and that they need fear nothing but the Executioner; they are ignorant of the beginning and ending of nature, moſt of them fancying the world without beginning, and that it ſhall be eternal. The beſt of theſe Sects make Taverns of their Temples, which are moſt commonly built in the pleaſanteſt and beſt places, ſumptuous, and

and well planted with trees and orchards: When the Inhabitants have a mind to rejoyce, they assemble here, and in the presence of their Gods, and company of their Priests, (who are likewise good fellows) they debauch and do those extravagances, which are the concomitants of excess and folly; common whores are permitted to enter and dance, the Priests themselves allowing of this jollity, and a further use, so it be in secret of these immodest females. I never heard that those people trouble themselves to dispute or argue in their religion; neither do they break their heads in converting others to their opinions; but leave every one to the freedom of his own, as indifferent and reasonable, as being infused into him by their Gods. Their Priests, as well as many of the Gentry, are much given to Sodomy, that unnatural passion, being esteemed no sin, nor shameful thing amongst them.

The perſecution of the Romiſh Chriſtians.

THoſe of this Countrey who were converted to Chriſtianity by the Romiſh Clergy, were them only which were perſecuted; At firſt they cut off their heads, and afterwards crucified them, which ſeemed then very ſevere; but when theſe cruel Idolaters perceived that death was not formidable to thoſe martyred Chriſtians, who went to their executions with ſinging and dancing, as if they courted their torments, and that the great numbers of them that ſuffered did no way diſcourage or diminiſh the remaining, but rather ſtrengthen and increaſe their multitudes, they reſolved to break them by more exquiſite and ſenſible tortures, to this purpoſe they bound them to ſtakes, and roſted them alive, deſtroying thouſands after this unſufferable manner: but ſeeing yet there was no end, and that death in what ſhape ſoever was not terrible enough to affright thoſe reſolved Saints to an Apoſtacy, they intended and practiced other more dreadful ways and pains, for to oblige them to quit and change their opinions and religion; they forced the women

women and more tender maids to go upon their hands and feet bowing, ſupporting and dragging them naked in the preſence of thouſands through the ſtreets; that done, they cauſed them to be raviſhed and lain with by Ruffians and Villains, and then throwing them ſo ſtript and abuſed, into great deep tubs full of Snakes and Adders, which crept by ſeveral paſſages into their bodies, ſuffered them to periſh after unſpeakable miſeries in that fearful manner: they thruſt hurds into the Mothers privities, and binding the Sons about with the ſame combuſtible matter, thruſt and forced them, as alſo the Fathers and Daughters, to ſet fire each to other, whereby they underwent unconceivable torments and pains: ſome they cloathed with ſods, and pouring hot ſcalding water continually upon them, tortured them in that manner till they died, which dured two or three daies, according to the ſtrength of the party; hundreds of them being ſtript naked, and burnt in the foreheads that they might be known, and driven into the Woods and Forreſts, all men being commanded by Proclamation, upon pain of death, not to aſſiſt them with either meat, drink, clothing or lodging; many more put into pinfolds upon the Sea-ſhore, and kept there half their time dry and half wet, being every tide

overflown by the Sea; but theſe were permitted to eat and drink, to keep them longer alive in this miſery, which laſted ordinarily ten or twelve daies. Theſe bloody Executioners put out the Parents eyes, and placing their little Children by them, pinched and plagued them whole days long, enforcing them with tears of blood to call and cry to their helpleſs Fathers and Mothers for an end of their ſufferings, which had no period but with their lives, whileſt their woful Parents, unable to aſſiſt either their Children or themſelves, did often die in their preſence, whom they could not ſee for grief or ſorrow. All theſe miſeries, too long and too many to relate, were born by the poor Chriſtians with conſtancy to a miracle; except ſome few, who not able to reſiſt the bitterneſs of theſe torments abandoned their Faith, for ſome relaxation from pain. Once a year they preciſely renewed their inquiſition, and then every individual perſon muſt ſign in their Church-books, with his blood, that he renounces Chriſtianity; and yet all would not do, for many hundreds of Chriſtians are found every year, and deſtroyed with variety of torments. At laſt they found a more helliſh and exquiſite way of torturing then before; they hung theſe ſufferers by the heels, their heads in pits, which

to

to give the blood ſome vent, they ſlaſh lightly croſs-wayes, (but they do that now no more) and in this poſture they live ſeveral daies, ten or twelve, and ſpeak ſenſibly to the very laſt: The greatneſs of this torment ſurpaſſeth all other, being beyond all humane ſtrength to ſuffer and be undergone, but by ſuch who are extraordinarily ſtrengthened from above. This extremity hath indeed (by reaſon of its continuance) forced many to renounce their religion; and ſome of them who had hung two or three days, aſſured me that the pains they endured were wholly unſufferable, no fire nor no torture equalling their languor and violence.

The Chriſtians being now almoſt rooted out, there is an order, that when one is found and condemned to be hanged by the heels, he ſhall be pardoned, in caſe he informeth againſt and produces another, which is now too much practiſed; for Apoſtacy helps no more, and they cannot reſiſt the torments of hanging, but are thus forced to betray one another: neither will this help theſe miſerable creatures, for I have been aſſured that they regiſter the names of ſuch who were permitted formerly to fall off, as alſo of ſuch who by their diſcovering of others ſaved their own lives, with an intent, that when they ſuppoſe

that they have the entire number and catalogue of all them who have and do yet profeſs Chriſt, they may deſtroy them all in one day. During theſe bloody and ſavage perſecutions, it happened that ſome Chriſtian Children, becauſe of their beauty, were begged and ſayed; but many of them of eight, ten, and twelve years old, &c. refuſed this grace, proteſting with courage, to a wonder, that they would not live, they did not fear death; but would go where their Parents went, into that joy where they ſhould be no more tormented: Some of theſe Children who had not this force, but deſired to live and ſurvive theſe pains, were violently hurried to their deaths by their Parents, with theſe comforting words; *Come my Children, do not live with theſe wicked wretches, I will bring you into a land that is rich and beautiful, where we ſhall continue for ever in joy and happineſs.* The common ſort of Chriſtians were but ſimplie bound when they were led to their executions; but the Prieſts, whether Portugals, Spaniards or Japaners, had the hair of their heads and beards half ſhaven off, the ſhaven part being coloured red; bits were alſo put in their mouths, to hinder them from ſpeaking; and their heads being pulled backwards, with halters put about their necks and tied behind

hind them, they were compelled to hold their faces directly upwards; and thus ſitting upon a lean horſe, they were carried to the place deſigned for their martyrdom. I ſhould be larger in the proſecution of theſe ſad relations, but that I leave them to their particular ſtory hereafter annexed.

How this Nation lives in their Houſes and Families.

ALl the Houſes in this Country are built of wood and timber, which is likewiſe their fewel; hence their houſes are much ſubject to burning, one of the plagues very frequent in their Towns; for this cauſe each houſe hath its pack-houſe of proof againſt the fire, wherein they keep their beſt and choiſe goods. The houſes are all built four foot high from the earth, made of planks cloſely covered with thick mats very artificially joyned, reſembling each other and uniform; they dwell moſt below, their upper rooms being employed to keep their ſmaller houſhold ſtuffs; but their beſt Chambers, where they receive and entertain their Friends, are neat and ſumptuous, according to their ſeveral abilities. The Souldiers and Gentry

have their houſes divided, one ſide for their Wives, and the other for them, for their Friends and their ordinary vocation. The Merchants and Citizens Wives dwell promiſcuouſly with their Husbands, governing and ordering their families as with us; but are very modeſt, and never ſpoken to but with reſpect, none preſuming to uſe any freedom in diſcourſe with them, although otherwiſe innocent and harmleſs; for both the man that took, and the woman that permitted this familiarity would be equally ſlighted, and blamed and looked upon as culpable and ſcandalous. Their houſhold-ſtuff conſiſts ordinarily in fine painted gilt diſhes, inſtead of pictures; the walls of their chambers are alſo for the moſt part painted with variety of figures, and laid with gilt-paper ſo curiouſly, as if it were but one large ſheet; the boards round about being beautified with liſts of black Wax, very artificially wrought; moſt of their rooms are divided with ſhuts, prepared and painted as the walls are, which being taken out, enlarges the rooms at pleaſure. In the upper end of this partition they have a picture with a pot full of flowers, which they have ready all the year long; and at the lower end there is always a gallery, with ſtairs to deſcend into their gardens, which are always green,

green, and ſo placed, that they in the Hall have the full proſpect of it. They do not furniſh and adorn their Houſes with Cheſts, Cupboards, Wax-works, and the like, theſe are always in their free-Chambers, or pack-houſes, where none is ſuffered to enter, but their familiar and moſt intimate Servants and Friends. Their chief furniture which they expoſe, are *Tſia* Cups and Pots, Pictures, Manuſcripts, and Sables, which each provides himſelf of, rich and goodly, according to his condition and might.

How they receive each other, and of their Hoſpitality.

THe *Japanners* are very hoſpitable and civil to ſuch as viſit them, they treat them with Tobacco and with *Tſia*, and if the friend be more then ordinary, with Wine: They cauſe them firſt to ſit down, and ſetting a Lack bowl before them, will not ſuffer them to depart before they have taſted of it; they ſing, they pipe, and play upon ſuch ſtringed inſtruments as they have, to rejoyce their Gueſts, omitting no manner of carouſes and kindneſſes to teſtifie their welcome, and the value they put upon their converſation. They never

never quarrel in their debauches, but he that is firſt drunk retires and ſleeps, until the fumes of the wine be evaporated. There is no ſuch thing as Tavern or publick drinking Houſe in all the Country; they eat, drink and are merry, but all in their own houſes, not refuſing lodging and refreſhment for the traveller and ſtranger.

Of their Conjugal State.

THeſe People neither make love nor woo, all their marriages being concluded by their Parents, or for want of ſuch near relations, by the next of kin. One Man hath but one Wife, though as many Concubines as he can keep; and if that Wife do not pleaſe him, he may put her away, provided he diſmiſs her in a civil and honorable way. Any Man may lie with a Whore, or common Woman, although he be married, with impunity; but the Wife may not ſo much as ſpeak in private with another Man, as is already ſaid, without hazarding her life. What is ſaid of divorce, relates only to the Citizen, Merchant, and common Souldier; a Gentleman or Lord may not put away his Wife, although ſhe would not pleaſe him, and that out of reſpect to her quality

quality and his own Perſon; he muſt maintain her according to her condition and neceſſities; but may freely divert himſelf with his Concubines and Women, and when the humor takes him with his own Wife again. This liberty that the Men have, obliges the Women to obſerve their Husbands, and endeavour to endear them to them, by an humble compliance and ſubmiſſion to their humors, being ſure elſe to loſe them, and ſee their Rivals preferred before them. Open Whore-houſes are publickly allowed of, as well for the uſe and conveniency of Batchelors, as to prevent the debauching of young Maids and married Women.

Of the bringing up of their Children.

CHildren are carefully & tenderly brought up; their Parents ſtrike them ſeldom or never, and though they cry whole nights together, endeavour to ſtill them with patience; judging that Infants have no underſtanding, but that it grows with them as they grow in years, and therefore to be encouraged with indulgence and examples.

It is remarkable to ſee how orderly and how modeſtly

modeſtly little Children of ſeven or eight years old behave themſelves; their diſcourſe and anſwers ſavouring of riper age, and far ſurpaſſing any I have yet ſeen of their times in our Country. None go to School under ſeven or eight years of age, as being until then uncapable of its rules, and more inclined to play then to learn, unleſs it be waggiſhneſs and wantonneſs. At School they begin by degrees, by ſweetneſs and not by force, the Maſters imprinting an ambition and deſire in each of them to out-go his fellow; they lead them likewiſe by examples, telling them that ſuch and ſuch learned ſo much in ſo little time, whereby his Honour and Family was ſo highly advanced. The Children are ſo accuſtomed to this way, that they learn ſooner and more then by any correction or whipping; for generous ſpirits, and an obſtinate Nation, ſuch as this is, are not to be forced, but rather won with gentleneſs and emulation.

What Succeſſion ab inteſtato.

WHen the Parents are grown old, and the Children come to be Men, the Father then quits his Government, Commerce, Shop or Trade, placing his eldeſt Son in his room, and giving him the greateſt part of his Eſtate; the younger Children are likewiſe provided for by the indulgent Parents, although their portions return to the eldeſt in caſe they die before them. Daughters have no portions at all, nor nothing given them at their marriage; ſometimes it happens that rich Parents ſend a good ſum of money with their Daughter upon their marriage day, to their Son in law; which preſent is returned by the Bridegroom & his Parents with much thanks, being unwilling that the Bride ſhould have any colourable excuſe to raiſe her into an opinion of having obliged her Husband: The poorer ſort do but ſeldom return theſe offers as needing them, and glad of any augmentation of their Friends. They have a common ſaying, that a Woman hath no conſtant dwelling, living in her youth with her Friends, being married with her Husband, and when ſhe is old with her Child.

Whether

Whether they be faithful or falſe in their dealings.

THis Nation is very truſty, and that out of their ambition, the only mark they aim at; hence it is that they ſeldom wrong each other, eſteeming their honours above their lives and hopes: examples of this kind are frequent amongſt them, I will only relate one. During the civil Wars between *Ongoſchio* and his Puple, the King of *Cocora* (who ſo lowed the Uſurper) had left his Queen and Children, as the faſhion is, at the Emperours Court; *Fideri* having notice of this revolt, ſent for *Cocora*'s Wife and Children to come into the Caſtle, the better to ſecure them; which the Lady refuſed, excuſing her ſelf, *That ſhe was married, and under the obedience of her King, as he was under his imperial Majeſty; let him command her Lord, and ſhe would moſt readily, upon receit of his orders, ſubmit to his Highneſs pleaſure.* The Emperour, angry at this denial, ſent her word, if ſhe would not come, he would cauſe her to be brought by force. The Queen, who thought no diſhonour equal to that of quitting her houſe in her Husbands abſence, and ſeeing ſhe could not conſerve

ſerve her ſelf in it againſt the Emperours fury, reſolved to periſh with it; ſhe therefore commanded ſome barrels of Gun-powder to be brought into a Chamber, where ſhe retired with her Children, Nurſe, and ſuch of her Women who were reſolved to die with her; and there writing her Will and her own Elegy, ſhe conveyed them by a truſty Gentleman in her ſervice to her Lord; and immediatly thereupon, putting fire to the Powder, prevented that loſs of honour which ſhe feared, and the Emperours deſign by that fatal blow. If it happen that a perſon be in a ſtrait and engaged, and comes to another for aſſiſtance, recommending the protection of his life and honour to his generoſity, this Man will hazard all, without reſpect of Wife and Children, for the ſervice of his Friend, and periſh or deliver him out of his diſtreſs and misfortune; they will die, nay ſuffer the worſt of tortures, rather then diſcover their complices, although in evil, thinking the breach of covenants inexpiable; and the diſhonour of not helping their neighbour, and one that hath thruſt him into miſery, worſe then any death whatſoever.

What Traffick, and with what Nations.

THe Trade of this Country (which is but ſmall in reſpect of the vaſtneſs of it, and it abounds with all ſorts of Merchandiſe) is carried on by ſtrangers, the principal whereof are the Chineſſes, who from the firſt peopling of this Empire to this day, have been conſtant frequenters of their yearly Marts. The *Spaniards* and *Portugals* have been acquainted with this People above an hundred years; the *Engliſh* but of late, who finding but little profit and great expences, abandoned this Traffick again. The *Siamers* and *Camboiders* uſed alſo to arrive with a Ship or two, though not now ſo often as formerly. Laſtly, the Netherlander got footing there, where they have ſeated themſelves faſt enough, and traded theſe forty years. The principal Commodities, as well thoſe which Strangers bring, as ſuch which are of the growth of the Country, are all brought to the great City of *Meaco*, which is the Staple of the whole Empire; it is here that the Merchants and Factors, from every part of the Land, do aſſemble, bringing with them ſuch things as their

their ſeveral Provinces do produce, which they ſell or change for others which they ſtand in need of. Theſe Merchandiſes are carried ſometimes two or three hundred miles to and fro, over hills and dales, all upon horſes, whereof they have an incredible number. The Traffick conſiſts of all ſorts of wares, as well for the pride as uſe of man; Strangers bring yearly four or five thouſand Picols of Silk, each Picol weighing one hundred twenty five pounds weight, beſides a great quantity of wrought Silks; two hundred thouſand Harts-skins; one hundred thouſand Rochvellen-skins; a great abundance of Hemp, Cloth, Cotton, and red Wool; Carpets to ſit upon, Pewter, Quick-ſilver, and all ſorts of Drugs; Nutmegs, Pepper, Musk, Sugar, Porcelan, Champhier, Borax, Eliphants-Teeth, red Coral, and all ſorts of ſmall Wares, which the Chineſes bring thither.

What domeſtick Trading, and Navigation.

HEre are many very rich Merchants who drive great Trades, theſe go themſelves, or have Factours at *Meaco*, where they exchange their Commodities for Silver, Gold

or other Wares, each according to his fancy and convenience. The *Japanners* of old had great correſpondency with them of *China*, whoſe Kings ſent Ambaſſadors yearly to each other, for entertaining their alliance, and the negotiation of their Subjects; it happened that the *Jappanners*, who were numerous in *China*, did mutiny, and in a tumult deſtroy a whole City, plundering, raviſhing, and ſpoyling all; but the *Chineſſes*, getting into a body, fell upon the *Japanners* again, and put all they could meet with to the ſword. The King of *China* hearing of theſe diſcords, was no leſſe amazed then in a wonder, that ſo few could do ſo much miſchief, and therefore reſolved to baniſh the *Japanners* for ever out of his Kingdom; in memory whereof he cauſed a great ſtone Pillar to be ſet up, with the ſtory of their exile in letters of Gold. He likewiſe ſet out a proclamation, that none of his Subjects, upon paine of death, ſhould ſaile any more to *Japan*; which order was then more exactly obſerved then at preſent, and yet they do not directly go thither; for the *Chineſſes*, under a colour of other voyages, do often ſlip into *Japan*. The Emperour of *Japan* doth not at all obſtruct their traffick, permitting them to enter and leave his Countrey when they pleaſe, Saying he will not reward evil for evil; con-

conſidering alſo that the reaſon of this prohibition, on the other ſide, came not through any fault of the *Chineſſes*, but by the diſorders of his own people. Since the *Japanners* have been baniſhed out of *China*, they uſed to ſail to *Tayouan*, where the *Chineſſes* brought them their Merchandiſes; but that being diſcovered by the Court of *China*, they were prohibitted this traffick likewiſe. Many years after the *Japanners* obtained leave to return to *Tayouan*, as alſo to go to *Touckien*, *Cambodia*, and *Siam*; which negotiation was again diſturbed, upon this conſideration, that the Emperour of *Japan* would neither offend nor be offended by any Strangers, which had already happened by the extortions of the Governours of *Siam* and *Tayouan*; and therefore none of his Subjects ſhould any more traffick or deal with ſtrangers out of their own Country: Another reaſon was, becauſe he would have no Arms tranſported out of his Empire, (which could not be hindred by no way but this) inſomuch that two *Chineſſes*, Father and Son, were both crucified at *Finando*, for endeavouring to convey ſome away in private: and five *Japanners*, who had ſold them the ſaid Arms, without knowing their deſign, were beheaded. But the chief cauſe of this inhibition is, leaſt the Natives of this Country, tra-

velling into ſtrange places, might be converted to the Chriſtian Religion, and upon their return infuſe thoſe forraigne principles into their Countrey-Men, which they have endeavoured, to ſuppreſs with ſo much blood and violence.

The Profits amounting thence.

NEither the Emperour, nor his ſubordinate Kings or Lords, do gain any thing at all by the Commerce of their Subjects, the Merchants onely profit by it, although the gain be not extraordinary, by reaſon of the greatneſs of the Country, the charge of tranſport, and the multitudes of people which muſt live by it.

Their correſpondency with Strangers.

THe *Japanners* hold no correſpondency at all abroad, having never yet ſent their Ambaſſadours into any forraigne Countries, except *China*, which they have alſo long diſcontinued. The King of *Spain*, the Pope, and the King of *Siam*, have ſent ſeveral extraordinary

ordinary Ambaſſadours to this Court, which were indeed honourably received and feaſted, though never any returns made again by this Prince.

The Commodities which Japan *yieldeth*

THere is nothing neceſſary for the uſe of Man, but this Country doth abundantly produce, as Silver, Gold, Braſs, Iron, Tin and Lead, in great quantity; alſo Cotton, Hemp, Silk, Filoſelle, Harts-skins, Wooden Manufactures, Drugs, and whatever can be required to feed and cloath its innumerable inhabitants.

Their Mint, Meaſures, and Weights.

THe *Japanners* have one Language, one faſhion in their Clothes, one Mint, and one Weight; they have indeed beſides their Gold and Silver Coins, a ſort of Copper Monies, which they call *Caſies*, and is of differing value in many of the Kingdoms; but his Majeſty hath reſolved to re-coin theſe *Caſies*

into one fashion, to which end he hath ordered all the old ones to be called in, and bought them of their owners at their full worth and price, wherewith his Officers have been busied these four years. They have three sorts of Gold coin; the first and greatest weigheth six Royals, and is worth forty six Tayles, each Tayl being valued at fifty seven Stivers, or Pennies: the second sort is worth six Tayles and one half; and the third (being the least) one and one sixth of a Tayle. Their Silver Money is of the Alloy of Dollers, cast into long figures, of no certain weight, but by guess; they put so many of these together as weigh fifty Tayles, the which being neatly lapped up in papers, are distributed as occasion serveth: they have yet a lesser Silver coin like a Bean, weighing from one Dutch Shilling to ten; and lastly, the Casiens, already mentioned, of differing worth, from one Doller to three, one fourth, the thousand. Their Yard, the Measure of their Grain, and their Weights, are equal and not differing at all.

What

What Beaſts and Fowl they have.

THis Countrey produceth Horſes, Bulls, (for they never geld their Cattle) Cows, Deer, and Swine, both wilde and tame in great abundance: There is likewiſe plenty of Bears, Dogs, Cats, and the like; there is no end of their Fowl, eſpecially Swans, Geeſe, Ducks, Herns, Eagles, Hawks, Pheaſants, Pigeons, Snipes, Quails, Partridges, and all manner of leſſer Birds.

What Medicinal Waters.

THey have ſeveral Fountains and Springs of hot Medicinal Waters, proper for the curing of many Diſeaſes, and ſuccesfully uſed for that purpoſe; ſome are Sulphurous, ſome taſte of Copper, others Iron, Tin, Allom, and the like Mettals and Minerals, partaking of the qualities of thoſe they paſſe by. I have ſeen of theſe Springs, one whereof being Tiniſh, burſt out of a hollow in the ſide of a Mountain, ſome ten foot in the round; this hole was, by reaſon of its depth, very obſcure

within, its orifice, or Mouth, being ſtrangely beſet with ſharp Stones, not much unlike the ſhort teeth of an Elephant, or thoſe which Painters appropiate to Divels. The Water flows continually out of this Cavern in a great quantity, and is not ſo hot, but a man may ſit in without diſturbance. I have ſeen another at the foot of a Mountain near the Sea, which rendred its Water but at times, ordinarily twice in twenty four hours, but this flowing did not continue above an hour; when the wind blows Eaſt and ſtifly, it flows thrice, and ſometimes four times in a day and night: This Water riſes out of a ſtony Pit, being covered with huge maſſie Stones of very great weight; when the time of flowitg comes, it burſts out of the earth in ſo great a quantity, and with ſuch a forcible winde, that thoſe great Stones are violently moved and ſhaken, the ſtreams guſhing and ſpouting three or four fathoms high, with ſo dreadful a noiſe that it equals that of a Cannon, or the falls of the greateſt Rivers: This Water is ſo very hot, that it is impoſſible to boyl ordinary Water to its height; it ſinges where it falls, and left to its ſelf continues hot thrice longer then any other. This Well is ſurrounded with a Wall for fear of harm, little conduits being made to convey its Streams to the neighbouring houſes,

houſes, where it is uſed by way of bath, for the curing of all diſtempers and maladies.

How the Kings, Princes, and Peers of the Kingdom, receive Audience of his Imperial Majeſty, and what train they muſt have.

THe ſolemn and great feaſts of this People are manifold, the firſt and greateſt is New-Years-Day, then the ſecond and third Day of the third Moneth, the third and fifth Day of the fifth Moneth, the fourth and ſeventh Day of the ſeventh Moneth, and the fifth and ninth Day of the ninth Moneth. Beſides theſe, his Majeſty gives publick Audience twice every Moneth, at new and full Moon, to all his Kings, Princes, Lords, and Gentry, who according to their qualities and orders, do homage and reverence to him. The train and attendance of theſe Grandees are appointed, the greateſt of them may not exceed an hundred followers; the leſſer being

alſo

alſo ſtinted and proportioned according to their revenues. Some of theſe Princes have indeed four or five thouſand, as well Men as Women, in their ſervices, but theſe they keep in their Palaces, and may not enter the firſt ring of the Caſtle, nor into the City with them: Now ſuch as are permitted to come into theſe two places with an hundred Servants, may not enter the ſecond ring of the Caſtle with more then twenty Attendants; neither may they be ſeen there on horſe-back, it being the dwellings of the Princes of the blood, and the Councellours: the great ones are carried here in Pallaquins or Sedans, others of leſs quality going on foot; which is no difficult thing, the ways and ſtreets being finely paved, and the middle of them ſet with great flat free-ſtones, which are kept extraordinary neat and clean: But no Man whoſoever is ſuffered to enter the third ring of the Caſtle, where the Emperours Palace is, but on foot, and only accompanied with two Servants, and a Boy to carry his Shoes; they of the ſecond rank are allowed but one Servant and a Shoe-carrier; and thoſe of the laſt rank only a Shoe-carrier. There never happens any the leaſt diſorder, running, playing, bawling, or confuſion among the people at theſe ſhows, every one continuing in a ſerious and ſilent poſture, as if

if they were in the Emperours preſence. Every one in this Proceſſion marches in his order and rank, ſo that there is not the leaſt ſtir even amongſt the Servants. The Souldiers ſtand in the Galleries we formerly mentioned, and certain ſworn Commiſſioners go to and fro, to obſerve both them and all others, ſo that the leaſt ſtir and noiſe is capital: This ſtrictneſs is not burthenſome, but grown ſo familiar by cuſtom, that the leaſt irregularity or tumult is not heard of. The ſame order is obſerved in all the Towns of the Countrey, the ſtreets being all uniform, each end of each of them being ſhut with Barrocadoes in the night, and kept with watches; ſo that no body is ſuffered to go out without a Ticket from the chief Magiſtrate, which is delivered to the Magiſtrate of the ſtreet, for the convenience of thoſe who need them, to fetch a Midwife, Phyſitian, or ſome near Friend in caſe of neceſſity, the Barrocadoes are opened to ſuch meſſengers as theſe, and none elſe; ſo that they never have any tumults in the ſtreets, robberies, murthers, houſe-breakings, or any ſuch unwarrantable diſorders.

Their Language, manner of Writings and Reckonings, and how far they tranſmit their Hiſtory to poſterity.

THe *Chineſes*, *Japanners*, *Corees* and *Torquains*, have their diſtinct Languages, wholly ſtrange to each other; neither have their Characters any reſemblance, and yet they have another faſhion of Letter common, and underſtood by the Studious and Learned of theſe four Nations; in this their Sciences & Wiſdom are written, although the Contents and Characters be general, underſtood and read by each in his own Tongue. They write with Pencils, and ready enough; moſt of their Errands are done by letters, which, by reaſon of their quickneſs in diſpatch, is no let to them, and the ſurer way; A man that can contract much matter into few lines, and intelligible, which is that which they all practiſe, is greatly eſteemed amongſt them; for ſuch they imploy to write their Letters, Petitions, and

and the like to great perſons; and truly it is admirable to ſea how full of ſubſtance, and with how few words theſe ſort of writings are penned. They have not the Italian manner of keeping of Books, and yet fail not in their calculations; they reckon with little pellets, ſtuck upon little ſticks upon a board, for the ſame purpoſe, after the manner of the *Chineſes*; wherewith they will add, multiply, and divide, with more facility and certainty then we with Counters.

They have many Books, and Libraries, though the common people are moſt illiterate: The *Deyro* himſelf writeth the Annals of his Country; and all other Books are written by himſelf or his Lords and Gentlemen, (which are at leaſt eight hundred ſtrong) or by their Wives and Women; for theſe Gallants, as Well Men as Women, being of kin, and married into each other, do nothing but ſpend their time in all worldly pleaſures, and the ſtudies of humane knowledge. Men are eſteemed and honoured with Titles, in this Court, according to the merit of their underſtanding, not their births; and it happens ſometimes, that the greateſt are by their weakneſs and folly brought down and unconſidered. Theſe Grandees, proud with their birth and breeding, conſider no body but themſelves, neither

neither converſe with any ſave only their own Comrades; for their dwellings and ſtreets joyn upon each other, being invironed and ſhut up from the reſt of the world. They ſpeak a higher ſtyle then the vulgar, wherein all their learning is couched; and many of them eſteem themſelves more noble then the Emperour, being indeed dignified with higher and more honorable Titles then their Soverain. Printing and Gun-powder was in uſe in this Nation above one hundred and fifty years before we in *Europe* had the knowledge of them: theſe they learned from the *Chineſes*, who have had them long, as their Hiſtories and Chronicles (filled with wonders, too long for this ſhort relation to mention) do abundantly witneſs.

An

An Extract out of the Governour of Indiaes *Letter to the Overſeers of the* Eaſt-India-Company, *touching the Trafficke in* Japan.

THis year trade (as we mentioned in our laſt of the twelfth of this inſtant) hath been but little advantagious, by reaſon of the diſaſters at Sea, which hath much weakned and put behind hand the *India* Capital or Stock, which will without queſtion ſuddenly change. God preſerve the Company from more misfortunes at Sea. We hope, if your Honours will ſecond us this following year with fifteen Tonne of Gold and Merchandiſe, we ſhall be able to make a return of thirty, being the *Indian* Commodities may probably riſe more then they are now fallen: *Japan* will in all appearance yield us eleven or twelve Tonne profit; *Perſia* at leaſt three hundred

hundred thouſand; and the other indulgent *Cantoors*, above three Tonne. The Dutch expences, which aroſe this year, will certainly fall, being the building and fortification of the dwellings and pack-houſes come to ceaſe. There is but little hope of advantage from the Enemy; nor ſhall we be able to *Cape* much this year about *Spirito Sancto*, by reaſon of the *Portugals* ſufficiency. We will endeavour to better all things by an advantagious negotiation, hoping much from *Japan*: It were not ſtrange if the *Chineſes* were hindred to frequent that Kingdom, or diverted by us: They profit fifty Tonne of Gold every year and more by the *Japan* trade; for they tranſport more then for one hundred Tonne yearly; God grant that we may injoy this trade alone, and that the Gold Mine in *Formoſa* flouriſh, that the ingaged may once enjoy the fruits of their charges and pains by rich returns, without ſending any monies out of the low Countries. I ſend you herewith a Copy of *Siragemondenne*, Governour of the Iſland *Kiſma* in *Naviga-ſacki*, where the Companies Servants and Factors do reſide and trade; his Letter, which I mentioned in my laſt, be pleaſed to conſider of the contents thereof, with ſuch as underſtand the affairs of *Japan*. It ſeems if we do not meddle with Chriſtianity, but behave

have our selves modestly, they will grant us the more liberty, and greater freedom in trading: we will order all things to the most advantage of the Company; and endeavour for as much as it shall be possible, that we may enjoy all, or at least the principal trading (which God grant) of *A Formosa*, a Land enriched with Gold, near *China*, and lately conquered by the *Castiliant*.

A short Relation of the Profits and Advantages which the Dutch East-India-Company in Japan *might acquire, in case they could compass the* China *Trade and Commerce: By* Leonard Camps.

MAny men are of opinion, and have by experience found, that during the time it pleased the mighty States General of

the united Provinces, and his princely Excellency, to give their Subjects leave to sail into the *East-India*, for the increase of Traffick and the common good, that to what place, or by what Prince soever we come, we were admitted and received for fear of harm, or for hopes of profit; and yet I believe, as my Predecessours did before me, that his Imperial Majesty of *Japan* suffered us not to harbour and to trade freely in his Country upon these considerations, but only to shew the goodness of his Nature, the greatness of his Dominions, and his civility to Strangers, especially those Nations who came into his Country as Friends. His Majesties goodness to Forraigners appears abundantly in this, in that he still suffers the *Chineses* to traffick in his Land, favouring them in his impositions more than his own Subjects; whereas they persecute the *Japaners* in their own Territories as Enemies, having set a price upon their heads, which by mistake hath cost many a *Portugal* his life: further his ambition doth not extend beyond the bounds of his own Empire; and contenting himself with those confines God and Nature hath prescribed him; he wages no war against his Neighbours, neither suffers his Subjects to molest or disturb any out of his obedience. No forraign Princes fall out by his

his instigation; neither doth he give or demand help or assistance upon any account. His power and might consists in the vastness of his Kingdom, and multitudes of his Souldiers; he hath arms at will, Castles that seem impregnable, Provisions in abundance, and Treasure without end. The plenty of Gold, Silver, Copper, Iron, Lead, and Pewter Mines is great; and the abundance of Silk, Cotton, Hemp, and thousands other commodities incredible. Briefly, this Country wants nothing, having no need of its neighbours at all; whence his Majesty never sought to forraign Princes, and yet received all that came or sent to him with all imaginable civility and kindness.

The *Spaniards* and *Portugals*, not ignorant of the commodious scituation, might, and riches of the *Japanish* Empire, were no less earnest in the enlarging of their own state, planting the Christian Religion, and advancing their traffick there, where other Princes seemed to desire. *Don John*, the first of that name, and the tenth King of *Portugal*, was very industrious in this *Disquisition*; his Countrey men having in fourscore years, wherein they continued their commerce in *Japan*, brought it so far, that *Manilha* was raised from nothing by this negotiation, and *Malacca Goa*

and ſeveral other places bettered and enriched by it; witneſs their great Cargaſoons, and yearly returns more or leſs, as it happeneth, amounting one with another to near a Million and a half of Ducats; never gaining leſs then fifty, and for the moſt part ſeventy five in the hundred, as we found by experience in that time that our Eaſt-India-Company ſhared in this rich commerce. The *Mavais* and *Portugals* fetched theſe vaſt profits yearly, which they gained in four or five moneths, whereof they ſpent ſome twenty dayes in going and coming upon the Sea, the *Japan* principal being but one fifth part. Let every one conſider, whether this noble Negotiation and ſweet returns, are not capable to indear theſe Merchants to this rich Country: Beſides this, their Religion, which by the zeal and induſtry of their Prieſts grew ſtrangely there, ſo that they had four hundred thouſand ſouls at once upon a liſt, which made them in hope to become abſolute Maſters of the whole Kingdom; this they purpoſed, which had been abſolutely effected, but that they wanted an head; and were traverſed in this great deſign by the Netherland Miniſters. If they had brought *Japan* to their devotion and obedience, as God be praiſed they have not it [illegible] hard matter to conceive the advantages [illegible] would have gotten

ten by it, and what they might further presumed, upon so mighty an acquisition. But my design is not to insist upon this matter, only to undeceive those men who blindly out of prejudice or ignorance, not only slight the Japanish trade, but have given out, that it is neither useful nor profitable for the East-India Company. But to return where we digressed; it is not imaginable that the *Portugals* and *Spaniards* are such fools, as to search out places to seat themselves in, and to carry on a trade, where there is no advantage to be got; that they have gained infinitely, and should still if they were not hindred by us, is visible: It is evident that they of *Mavan* are at present rich, that their City is strong, and their Houses like so many Palaces, wherein they live like earthly gods in pleasure and plenty, whereas they were before but bare and needy. Neither did the ill treatment they lately received in *Japan*, nor the persecutions of the Women Catholicks there, nor the loss of *Andrew Plasoes Carack*, who was assaulted and sunk, by the Emperours command and forces, before *Naugasack*, nor the danger they incur by our ships at Sea, can deter or oblige them to quit this Kingdom: when the danger to sail thither with great Vessels was too great, they trulked with little ones; which this proud Nation,

who aſpire to an univerſal Monarchy, would never have done, if it had not been for the certainty and ſweetneſs of the profit: What can our People alledge to the contrary? is it not as we have formerly ſaid, that the door is not open for us alone, but for all other Nations who come as friends to negotiate in his Majeſties Dominions. During our abode in *Japan*, we have been treated with very great civility; although we have not profited ſo much as the *Portugals*, yet we have gained more honour then they; we have not loſt at all, and our winnings have been proportionable to our Cargaſoons; we have had ſeveral commodities thence, and much uſeful proviſions; we have repaired many of our old Ships in their Havens, and furniſhed them with all manner of neceſſaries: The Fleets we ſend from hence every year to the *Manilhas* againſt our common Enemy, return without being queſtioned by any, and diſpoſe of their prizes at pleaſure, paying nothing but the ordinary rites, which is only a ſmall preſent to the Emperour; what Chriſtian Prince in *Europe* would treat us ſo well, and moleſt us ſo little? Now that it hath pleaſed the Almighty, that we by the good conduct of our General *I. P. C.* do not only bridle them of *Maccau*, but likewiſe hinder them to ſail to

Japan

Japan, and ſo keeps them from that rich trade they enjoyed ſo many years; it remains only that we ſtill keep them out, to which purpoſe eſpecial care muſt be had to uſe the *Japaners* well and civilly; to hinder their detriment, and not to deſpiſe or miſuſe them in any kind, but to ſuffer every one to paſs and re-paſs where their buſineſs calleth them, aiding and aſſiſting them with all poſſible endeavour and friendſhip. We muſt not be leſs careful then the *Portugals* have been, to furniſh this Kingdom yearly with all manner of commodities, bringing rather more then leſſer; for if it take according to the Generals deſign, which God grant, they of *Japan* will be deprived of the *Maccau* commerce, as alſo of their trafficking into divers other places, *Kouthinchina*, *Kamboia*, *Siam* and *Manilha*, from which places they received betwixt two and three thouſand picols of Silk every year, beſides ſeveral other neceſſary commodities, which they will be obliged to take from us, as being nearer and at their own homes. We muſt above all things cheriſh his Majeſties inclination to us wards, and have a ſpecial care to remove all cauſes of diſcontent that may ariſe; for if this mighty Prince conceive the leaſt diſtaſte againſt us, and refuſe us his friendſhip and correſpondence, it will be the only obſtacle to hinder

us to compaſs our deſign; in this caſe we have more reaſon to fear the *Japanners*, then either the *Spaniards* or *Chineſes*, as being no leſs potent and couragious then they, and powerful enough to drive us out of the *Piſcadores*, or where we ſhould endeavour to ſettle; but if it muſt be ſo, we ſhould be able to help our ſelves without *Japan*, but not in ſo convenient a place, as we have mentioned already, which we ſhall find true in caſe we fall out with them, which God forbid. Our Governour hath ſhewn us a way, and recommended it to us, which if followed, we may eaſily continue in his Majeſties favour, and once enjoy the long deſired ſweet profits which our enemies have had ſo many years undiſturbed; and I doubt not, but by one way or other we ſhall be able to get the unvaluable *China* trade into our hands.

The *China* trade being then in our diſpoſe, all we have to do, is to ſend yearly into *Japan* ſuch Cargaſoons as we ſhall hereafter mention; in the doing whereof, we ſhall not only pleaſe his Majeſty, and enjoy the ſweet favouring profits which our enemies will be deprived of, but ſhall be able to ſatisfie our Maſters out of the gain, without any expence of theirs, it being more than probable, that their yearly return will amount to an hundred

Tonne

Tonne of Gold, which is ten Millions ſterling, or more every year. *Japan* will be more uſeful for us, and more profitable then it hath been to the *Portugals*, if your affairs ſucceed according to our Governour Generals meaning; for beſides the Silk which the *Portugals* brought from *Maccan*, the *Japanners* fetched themſelves betwixt two and three thouſand Picols yearly, as we have already obſerved from *Conrchinchina*, *Conrchin Manilha*, and other places more, whereof they are hindred and receive none, but what we bring them, and at ſuch rates as we ſhall pleaſe to put upon them.

The Cargaſoon which I ſhould require, and which would be yented there infallibly with profit, out of which our Maſters might have ſo much *China* ware as they demanded, without the expence of a penny, is as followeth.

3000 Picols of white raw Silk, at 180 Royals of eight the Picol, amounts to *R.* 540000.

260 Ditto fine ſodden Silk, at 200 Royals the Picol *R.* 52000.

500 Ditto raw Silk, in ſhort and long ſtrings, at 180 Royals the Picol *R.* 60000.

100 Ditto white Silk, at 290 Royals the Picol *R.* 20000.

100 Ditto Flos Silk at 190 Royals the Picol *R.* 19000.

15000 pieces of black Single, at 2 Royals the piece R. 77500.

20000 Ditto coloured Armosyne, at one Royal and a half the piece R. 30000.

2000 Ditto black Sattin, at 8 Royals the piece R. 16000.

5000 Ditto good black Damask, at 6 Royals the piece R. 30000.

Transport for the following K.

5000 Ditto ordinary good black even Sattin at R. 30000.

2000 Ditto fine black even Velvet, at 8 Royals the piece R. 16000.

5000 Ditto white even Sattin woven flat, at 4 Royals the piece R. 20000.

2000 Ditto black fine watered Grogrum, at 8 Royals the piece R. 16000.

2000 Ditto white Damask, at three Royals and a half the piece R. 7000.

3000 Ditto white Cramosy red Damask, at 5 Royals the piece R. 15000.

5000 Ditto Cramosy red L. at 4 Royals the piece R. 20000.

3000 Ditto paynted Calicoes at 4 Royals and a half the piece R. 13500.

3000 Ditto white L. at three Royals the piece R. 9000.

2000 Ditto paynted Calicoes at three Royals and a half the piece R. 9000.

5000

5000 Ditto fine black Stuffs of all sorts, worked with Gold and Silver, at ten Royals the piece R. 50000.

105000.

This aforesaid *China* Cargasoon being sent yearly to *Japan*, I engage my self to my Masters, so long as God gives me health, to serve them for nothing, unless I return them in four or five moneths time, in good Silver, One million eight hundred and fifty thousand Royals of eight; if that be not enough, let them send more and the gain will be greater. We have taxed the goods at twenty *per cent* higher then they will possibly be bought for, and that purposely, as knowing well that these goods will first cost us more then the *Portugals* had them for at *Maccan*, by reason of the fort and Cargasoon that we must necessarily hold for the *China* trading. I know it will fall heavy for our Masters, considering their other expences, to furnish us with so much as is here required; if it cannot be done at once, let them furnish us with the half, the business can be so ordered here, that one third part of the *Japans*, and another third part of the *Portugals* principal be imployed, so that the Masters need furnish but the rest, which they may gain back (and all charges paid) in six moneths. The Overseers of the Company do

do intimate by their Letters, their earneſt deſires to have great Cargaſoons ſent yearly home, for the eaſing of thoſe vaſt expences they are at; by reaſon whereof it happens, to the great grief of our Governour General and Councel of *India*, that many places fail oftentimes to furniſh the deſired *quota*; the which hath obliged me to deliver this by writing to their Honours, if they be pleaſed to hearken to it, and furniſh our demands yearly, without delaying; if it cannot be found out of the *China* commodities alone, it muſt be ſupplied with Europian wares, as alſo with ſome Nutmegs, Peper, Elephants-teeth, and the like, that we may ſhew that our givings out to our Maſters ſhall not only reap the aforeſaid profits, but their Servant ſhall gain praiſe and thanks, to the honour of the Netherland Nation. Sixty four Tonnes of Gold and a half may be yearly gained by theſe *China* Silk Wares, beſides other Commodities.

A deſcription of the pompous and magnificent reception of the DEYRO *in the City of* Meaco, *when he came to viſit his Imperial Majeſty of* Japan, *on* Octob. 25. 1626. *Written by* Coenraed Krammer, *deputed from the Eaſt-India-Company to that Court, and then preſent.*

IN the year 1626. having had audience on the twentieth of *October*, I took my leave of both the old and young Emperour, four dayes before the feaſt; which ſeemed ſtrange to them that knew it, being their Majeſties were ſo intent in their preparations for the *Deyro*'s reception; but theſe men did not know how deſirous the Emperour was to diſpatch the Hollanders before the feaſt: however the *Si-*

ammer

ammer and *Portugal* Ambaſſadours had not as yet been publickly received, and all by reaſon of the preſent buſineſs, which took up the whole Court, inſomuch that they were deferred till that was paſt; we being therefore diſpatched, had the more leaſure and deſire to ſee this ſolemn entertainment, and the rather, being invited to a ſtay by the Lord of *Firando* and *Cackuſymondonne*. On the twenty fourth we went towards the Emperours Palace, attended upon by all our Servants; and having hired a place from which we might ſee the whole proceſſion, we were forced to ſtay there that whole night, by reaſon of the great crouds of people that paſſed that way; on the morrow following, being the twenty fifth, as ſoon as the day appeared, we ſaw an innumerable company of people, who filled the way up betwixt the Emperours Palace and the *Deyro*'s Court. The ſtreets were made very even, and ſtrewed with white ſand, and railed in on both ſides, and guarded all along by Souldiers of both their Majeſties and of the *Deyro*'s, all clothed in long white veſtments, with head-pieces of black wax, and armed each with two Sables and a Pike, for defence of the paſſage through which the Coaches and Horſes were to march; all running waters and ditches were covered with boards

boards and planks; and ſcaffolds were raiſed on both ſides the way for the ſpectators.

The firſt that paſſed were Servants that belonged to the *Deyro* and Emperour with many *Palanquimos* or Porters, who carried the *Deyro*'s baggage, packt up in great ſquare Wax Cheſts (the covers whereof were painted with the *Deyro*'s Arms in Gold) to the Emperours Court: Theſe were accompanied with a great train of Attendants, who were again followed by ſix and forty *Palanquin* Stools or Sedans, wherein the Women belonging to the *Deyro*'s Wives were carried; theſe Sedans were all of them curiouſly wrought of bright white wood, ſix foot high, laid with plates of Copper, and finely painted, each of theſe being carried by four luſty fellows; after them went one and twenty Sedans or *Norimons*, (for ſo they call them here) covered with black Wax and gilded, and behind them ſome twenty ſeven more whoſe doors and windows were all gilded; ſome of the *Deyro*'s chief Lords were carried in theſe, each of them having a *Quiroſol* wholly gilded, and covered with a very rich covering, carried before them; theſe Lords were attended by one hundred and eight Pages in white Liveries; behind them marched twenty four Gentlemen on horſe-back, clothed and armed in their Habillements of war; their

their Head-pieces were of Wax, with little black feathers behind; they were clothed in Coats with great wide ſleeves; their Breeches were long and ſmall, made of even Sattin of all colours, embroydered with Gold and Silver very richly; they had little black Boots, gilded with ſtripes of Gold: their Arms were gilded; Sables with Bows and Arrows were girt to them, with great rich embroydered Scarfes, whoſe ends hung over on each ſide of the Horſe; their Horſes were goodly and beautiful, with little heads, little ears, and ſhort bodies; their Saddles were all waxed or gilded, the ſeats being of embroydered works or Tigers skins; the mains of theſe Horſes were twiſted or platted, with Silver and Gold, the breaſts and buttocks were adorned with nets of Silk, whoſe ſtrings hung low; they had gilded horns on their foreheads, and were ſhod with interwoven Silk in ſtead of Iron; every Horſe was led by two Foot-men, two great *Quiroſols* made of fine linnen, and cover'd above with red cloth, with fringe round about it, being born before, and ſerving to cover the Horſe, which was further attended with eight Pages, or Servants, all in white liveries, and armed as the manner is, with two Sables or Swords: And thus theſe Horſe-men rode by paces, from the *Deyro*'s to the Emperours

persours Palace in very good order. These were followed by three rich Coaches, in which were the *Deyro*'s three principal Wives; each of these Coaches were four fathoms high, two fathoms long, and one broad, being beautified with Wax figures, and enameled with Gold; there were three windows on each side, and two before, being hung with rich curtains; the entrie was behind the Coach, made like the gate of a Palace, with chambers on both sides; all under the windows seemed black Wax; the rands of the wheels were gilded, and the spoakes finely turned and in-laid with Gold; when they moved, they seemed to turn against a Looking-glass, by reason of the clearness of the glittering Wax, which was goodly to behold; These wheels were covered with pent-houses very artificially and richly wrought, every corner of them being platted with fine Gold; the top of all, or cover, was black Wax, whereupon the *Deyro*'s arms were curiously done in Gold; every one of these great Coaches, or rather Towers, were drawn with two great strong Bulls, covered with nets of red twined Silk, which were led by four foot-men clothed in white; each of these Coaches valued at seventy thousand Tayles, a Tayl being full five English shillings. The train of Pages, all

clothed in white, that attended these Ladies, was numerous, each of them having a gilded foot-stool, and a pair of Wax slippers carried behind them. Then followed twenty three *Norimons*, or *Palanquins*, being made of white Wood, and plated with Copper, wherein were the Servants of these three Ladies, each waited upon with a great *Quirosol*, two Pages, and four Porters to carry them. Behind these followed sixty eight of the *Deyro*'s Gentlemen on horse-back, clothed and armed as the former; they marched by two and two, being accompanied by a great train of Servants, Slaves, Pages, Foot-men and Pike-men.

The aforesaid Cavalry being passed, there followed

Two gilded Sables, the extremities of them being plated with Gold.
One great Vier-werck, rich and curious.
One Peyl Compas, exceeding great and costly.
Two great Gold Candlesticks.
Two great Eben Pillars.
Three small square Tables, or Desks, of black Eben wood, the corners being plated with Gold.
Four great Tables of the same.
Two great fair Plates, or Dishes, wrought in Gold.
One pair of wax Slippers. Two

Two beautiful Coaches, equal in form and fineneſs with the former, followed theſe rarities: The old Emperour; *Sadoſicunninano Tonofindelanda*, ſate in the firſt; and in the other the young Emperour, called *Oendeſiennminano Tonoyuemytſamma*. Fourſcore pairs, or couples, of Gentlemen marched on foot before theſe Coaches; they were armed each of them with two Sables and a Pike, being all proper ſtout men, and ſerve for the Emperours guards; four rich *Quiroſols* were carried before their Majeſties, and four men with Pikes cleared the paſſage; two beautiful Horſes, richly trapped, were led before the Coaches, on whoſe ſides eight Men, armed with Bows and Arrows and long Pikes, did march in order to wait upon them. The Emperours Brothers, and all the Princes and great Lords of *Japan*, followed on horſe-back, clothed and armed as the former, ſave that ſome were richer than other, according to their births and qualities; there were one hundred ſixty and four of theſe Grandees, the chief whereof, and thoſe who immediately followed the Emperours, were

Oxarny Cammy Samma, the old Emperours Brother.

Quyne Deymangon Samma, another of his Brothers.

Maſſammenemoet Nocammy Samma, yet another Brother.

Matſendeyro Thuykeſnocammi Samma, Lord of *Canga*.

Matſendeyro Montſnocammy Samma, Lord of *Satſuma*.

Matſendeyro Iondonne.

Matſendeyro Symoutſquedonne.

Matſendeyro Quonnenochwuchoo.

Turogano Deynangono Cammy Samma, the young Emperours eldeſt Prince.

Myttotchonango Samma, the old Emperours Brother.

Theſe ten Lords rode immediately behind the Emperours Coach, each by himſelf, attended with a numerous train of Gentlemen, Pages, Pikemen, &c. according to their ſtate and quality: The reſt of the Lords followed by couples, two and two, the beſt of them taking the left hand, which in this Countrey is the upper and beſt place; *Ouwaydonne*, the old Emperours chief Councellor, and *Woutadonne*, the young Emperours chief Councellor, led the van of the remaining one hundred and fifty four Lords, all of them marching in good order, great ſtate and magnificency and rarely mounted upon brave Horſes, which pranſed and curvetted all the way. Four hundred armed Souldiers, all in white Liveries, followed

followed after theſe, two by two; and after them ſix new fair Coaches, though not above half ſo great as the other, and only drawn by one Ox, but proportionably beautiful; the *Deyro*'s Concubines ſate in theſe, who were again followed by thirty four pair of Gentlemen on horſe-back, attended with many Servants and Slaves. There was yet another Coach wherein the *Deyro*'s Secretary rode, accompanied with thirty ſeven Gentlemen on horſe-back; then followed the *Norimons*, which carried ſeveral of the *Deyro*'s Grandees, whereof fifteen were of black Wood, inlaid with white Ivory; thirteen of black Wood, adorned with Wax and Gold; and eighteen wholly done over with black Wax. Forty ſix great gilded *Quiroſols*, with their attendants, followed theſe *Norimons*; and behind them fifty four Gentlemen, being the *Deyro*'s Muſitians, with ſeveral Inſtruments, as Pipes, Tabours, Symbals, Bells, and ſome ſtringed ones which are not known amongſt us. The *Deyro* himſelf followed theſe Muſitians, ſiting in a great ſquare Edifice, ſurrounded with drawing doors and windows on each corner; this lodge was about nine foot high, its cover being round, and in the middle a gilded Ball, whereon ſtood a Cock with his wings ſpread, of pure Gold: This ſtructure was very beautiful, being adorned on

all sides with carved Images, its angles plated with pure Gold, and the roof of it intimating the Heaven, with Sun, Moon and Stars. There were fifty Persons, all Gentlemen belonging to the Emperours, clothed with long white Robes, and Wax Head-pieces, that carried this ambulatory Palace: Forty Gentlemen antickly dressed, although armed with Europian Head-pieces, and Pikes gilded at the ends, went before the *Deyro*, and these were of his Life-guard. One of his principal Lords did immediately follow him, armed as the other, bearing in his hand a Shield stuck full of Arrows; then came forty great *Quirosols*, all covered with fine white linnen, and belonging to the aforesaid Guards: These were again followed by thirteen great Wax Chests, carried by the Palanquyn Porters: And lastly, the whole procession was closed with four hundred persons all in white vestments, marching six in a rank in very good order. The *Deyro* and his Train were no sooner past, but the evening came on, and an innumerable company of people of all sorts: the Stages and Houses which had been filled with Spectators, had disgorged their burthens in the Streets; so that the multitude was so immensly great, that very many disorders happened, as cutting of purses, stealing, murthering and robbing each

other; very many were ſtifled in the crouds, and ſuch as but once fell, were ſure never to riſe, being troden to death: The noiſe all night was ſo great, as if the City had been in an uproar; and the inſolencies grew to that heighth, that many perſons of quality, who could not get out of the throng, or were retiring to their houſes, were ſet upon, and very many of them ſpoiled and murthered: among others, the Lord of *Firando*'s Secretary ſaw his Servant robbed, and a rich Cabinet of his taken from him, before his own face, whileſt he himſelf had much ado to defend himſelf from the violence of theſe aſſaulters. We were forced, with our Servants, to quit our ſtage, and put our ſelves into the crowd, becauſe of the night, and the danger to continue where we were, which we durſt not do without running the hazard of being murthered; the preſs was ſo great, that we were born up by the people moſt of our way, being but ſeldom able to put a foot upon the ground; yet at length, by Gods great bleſſing, we got all (without any conſiderable loſs) ſafely to our lodgings.

The *Deyro* and his Wives were lodged three dayes and three nights in the Emperors Palace, being ſerved by their Majeſties and their Brothers, and the greateſt Princes of their Court, every meal conſiſting of one hundred and

forty services. This feasting being done, the young Emperour gave the *Deyro* these following presents:

Three thousand Boats of Silver, each of four Tayls and three Marses.
Two rich Sables.
Two hundred *Japan* Gowns.
Three hundred pieces of wrought Sattin.
Twenty picols of raw Silk.
One great piece of Calombacq.
Five great Silver pots full of Musk.
And ten beautiful Horses with their accoutrements.

The old Emperour gave him
Two hundred pieces of Gold, each worth fifty four Silver ones.
One hundred *Indian* gowns richly wrought.
Two great Silver pots full of Musk.
Five Catti Calombacq.
Two hundred pieces of red Silk.
Five Silver pots full of Amber Greece.
And five brave Horses with their accoutrements.

His Secretary had given him
Three hundred Boats of Silver, equal with the other in worth.
And twenty *Indian* Gowns.

A Deſcription of the Government, Might, Religion, Cuſtomes, Traffick, and other remarkable Affairs in the Kingdom of SIAM: *Written in the Year* 1636. *by* Jooſt Schouten, *Directour of the Eaſt-India-Company in that Countrey.*

SIAM is a famous and potent Kingdom, ſcituate upon the continent of *Aſia* eighteen degrees Northern Latitude, where it bordereth upon the Countries of *Pegu* and *Ava* twelve degrees; it extendeth it ſelf Weſtward to the *Bengaſche* ſea of *Martavan* to ſeven degrees, where it borders upon the Kingdoms of *Patany*

tany and *Queda*; Southward from the *Bengaſche* to the *Patanys* Ocean, this Coaſt turns Northward to thirteen degrees, making with its bowing the Gulf of *Siam*; thence the Coaſt runs again Southward to twelve degrees, and leaving the Sea terminates Eaſtward upon the Deſart of *Cambodia*, and the Kingdoms of *Jangonia*, *Tangou*, and *Langjang* to eighteen degrees, even to *Ava* and *Pegu*; ſo that the form of this Land is like an half Moon, and containeth in its circuit four hundred and fifty Dutch miles, one Dutch mile makes ſix Engliſh. This Country (which is in many places mountainous, woody and mooriſh, eſpecially towards the Sea, although for the moſt part even and clay, and is likewiſe full of all ſorts of Beaſts and Fowls, and Rivers repleniſhed with abundance of Fiſh) hath where it bordereth upon the *Benga* and *Siams* Seas many Iſlands, Bays, Havens and Rivers moſt commodious for the receipt of great and ſmall Veſſels; I ſhall not particularize all, only mention the chief River, as the moſt frequented Haven of the whole Kingdom: This River (called by the name of *Menam*, or the Mother of Waters) is great, wide, and very long, its courſe being not known unto them. It paſſeth from the North Southward very ſwiftly through the Land of *Ava* and *Pegu*, and ſeveral Provinces

of

of *Siam*, until that it diſcharge it ſelf by three mouths into the Sea of *Siam*; it partaketh of the nature of thoſe famous Rivers *Ganges* and *Nilus*, flowing once a year ſo high that it covereth moſt part of the Countrey, making it incredibly fruitful, and deſtroying by this inundation (which continueth four or five moneths) all obnoxious vermin and creatures. The greateſt mouth of this River, is that which lies moſt Eaſtward thirteen degrees and a half Northern latitude; and in the middle of the inlet, there is a great flat, or ſand, a mile long, that croſſes the entry of the River five or ſix foot deep at low water, but at heighth is fifteen or ſixteen, and in the Winter moneths, when the floods are great, there is ordinarily ſeventeen or eighteen foot and more; great Ships that go deep, are forced to anker at four, five, or ſix fathoms water without this bank, the ground being clay and good; but thoſe that paſs this flat at high water, enter the River without any more danger of runing on ground till they come to the Town of *Banckock*, ſix Dutch miles upwards; then the River grows narrower and more ſhallow, Ships drawing eleven or twelve foot water, being ſcarce able to mount to the City of *India*, where they are ſometimes forced to ſtay till the moneths of *September*, *October* and *November*, for water

to

to return. The Country is generally well peopled, especially the lower part of it, being full of Villages and Towns; the principal whereof are *Indica*, *Picelouck*, *Sourckelouk*, *Capheng*, *Soutcethay*, *Kephinpet*, *Conseywan*, *Pytsyay Pitsidi*, *Lydure*, *Tenon*, *Mirmelon*, *Martenayo*, *Lygor*, *Bordelong*, *Tannassary*, *Banckock*, *Pypry*, *Rapry*, *Mergy*, and several other, all which are governments and heads of Provinces; besides these there are many Cities and Burroughs full of people, which I omit as superfluous. The City of *Indica*, the Metropolis of the Kingdom, and seat of the King and his chiefest Nobles, is scituate upon the River *Menam*, in a little round Island, encompassed with a thick stone wall, about six English miles round; the Suburbs are on the other side of the River, closely builded, and full of Temples and Cloysters, lying in a flat and fruitful Country. The Streets of the walled Town are many of them large, straight and regular, with channels running through them, although for the most part of small narrow Lanes, Ditches, and Creeks most confusedly placed; the Citizens have an incredible number of small Boats or Prawes, which come to their very doors, especially at floods and high water. The building of the Houses is according to the *Indian* fashion, slight, and covered with Tiles; but the City

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is beautified with more then three hundred fair Temples and Cloyſters, all curiouſly builded, and adorned with many gilded Towers, Pyramids, and Pictures without number. The Kings Palace is ſeated upon the River, reſembling a little Town apart great and magnificent, many of its Buildings and Towers being entirely gilded. This royal and admirable City is perfectly well ſeated, and populous to a wonder, being frequented by all Nations; and is likewiſe impregnable, as not to be beſieged but ſix moneths in a year, by reaſon of the innundations of the River, which covers the Countrey round with its overflowings. The Soveraignty and Government of *Siam* is in the King, a Prince of a Noble and ancient family, who hath been in poſſeſſion of this Kingdom, and the neighbouring Provinces, many hundred of years; this Prince is abſolute in his Dominions, diſpoſing of War and Peace, Alliances, Juſtice, Pardons and Remiſſions, *&c.* at his pleaſure; He maketh Laws without any adviſe or conſent of his Council, or Lords, his will being the rule he walks by, unleſs his goodneſs deſcend ſometimes to counſel with his *Mandoryns*, them of his Council; theſe ſometimes deliberate upon his Majeſties propoſitions, and preſent their reſult to him by way of humble ſupplication,

which

which he confirms, changes or rejects, as he thinks good. He disposes Soveraignty of all the Dignities and great Offices of his Kingdom, without respect of persons, noble or otherwise, (except some of the Antientest and greatest Families) to such as have or may serve him well, whom he again deprives of their honours for small faults; so that they are all his Slaves and Vassals, which the Great ones esteem an honour, and put in their titles. The King thus soveraignly disposing of all things, doth notwithstanding nothing without some appearance of reason, and conformity to the Laws of the Kingdom, which however antient, he by his usurped prerogative and power, doth interpret and bow to his Arbitrary will and pleasure. His Majesties Court and Train is exceeding great and glorious; He seldom shews himself to the People, and very sparingly to his Grandees and Officers of the Kingdom, which happens at certain appointed times and dayes. When he gives them Audience he is richly clothed and crowned, sitting upon a golden Throne, at whose feet his Gentlemen and Attendants reverently kneel, accompanied with three hundred armed Souldiers of his Lifeguard: All, as well Strangers as Subjects, who have audience of his Majesty, whilest they are in his presence, must continually

nually kneel, with folded hands and heads hanging down; when they speak to him, it must be in this humble posture, loading him with titles and praises; his Answers are esteemed Oracles, and his commands unchangeable; so that he lives happy in all imaginable worldly pleasures, having many magnificent Houses up and down the Kingdom, as also other places, Tents and Pavilions: He eateth highly, but his drink is simple water, or *Coco*, all strong drinks being prohibited by the Clergy and the Laws, and esteemed scandalous. His Majesty goeth ordinarily by water with eight or ten very costly and fine Barges, each with eighty or a hundred rowers; he sits under a gilded Pavilion upon a Throne, accompanied with his Courtiers and other Barges, to the number of three or four hundred, with his Train and Guards waiting upon him; most of the great Ones follow the Court at such times, each in his rich gilded Barge or Praw; so that the whole train of them is twelve or fourteen hundred, and sometimes more. When he goes by land, he is mounted upon a gilded seat, and carried upon mens shoulders, the train being ordinarily the same, all marching in order and great silence; no body is seen in his way or sight, but upon their knees, with folded hands, and bowed heads and bodies.

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this reverence better becoming a celestial Diety, then an earthly Majesty.

Once every year, about the moneth of *October*, the King of *Siam* shews himself by water and land in state to his people, going to the principal Temple of the Gods, to offer there for the welfare of his Person and Kingdom, the manner follows: When he goes by land, the procession is led by two hundred Elephants, each attended with three armed men; these are followed by many Musitians with Gomnies, Pipes and Drums, and a thousand men richly armed, and provided with Banners: Then march the great Lords of the Kingdom on horse back, many of them wearing Crowns of Gold upon their heads; and every one waited upon by sixty, eighty, or an hundred men on foot: Two hundred *Japan* Souldiers follow these with bright Arms and rich Colours, and much noise of Instruments; then comes the Lifeguard with the King's Horses and Elephants, richly adorned with precious Stones and Gold furniture; which is followed by many Servants loaden with fruits and presents for the Sacrifice, accompanied with a sweet consort of Musick: These are again followed by many of the great Ones on foot, with folded hands; as also some Crowned Grandees, whereof one carrieth the gilded Standard,

Standard, and the other the Sword of Justice; his Majesty follows next in person in his royal Robes, sitting upon an Elephant, or else a gilded Throne, carried upon mens shoulders, and waited upon by many Lords and Courtiers; the Prince, or Heir of the Kingdom, followeth him; and then in order the Kings Wives and Concubins, seated upon Elephants in little enclosed Cabinets: lastly the ordinary Courtiers follow; the whole provision consisting of fifteen or sixteen thousand persons, having its rear brought up by six hundred armed men. But if the King go by water, then two hundred Lords, each in his Barge, seated in a gilded Cabinet, with eighty or ninety Rowers, led the van; these are followed by ten extraordinary rich figured Praws, or Barges; the which, as also the Oars, are all gilded, each having ninety or an hundred Watermen: The King is in the richest of them, sitting like an Idol upon a golden Throne, with his Lords in their humblest posture at his feet: the royal Banner is born by one of these Grandees, at the head of the Barge, in state. The King's Brother followeth next with his Train; and after him his Majesties Wives and Concubins, in gilded Cabinets and Tents, each in their Barges apart: lastly the Gentry, Courtiers, Guards, and other Attendants follow, the

whole amounting to five or six and twenty thousand persons. The River is bordered on both sides with Boats, and an infinite number of People, who reverence and adore their King in his passage, with bended heads and folded hands.

The Dominion and Revenue of the Crown is great, amounting yearly to many Millions, arising out of in-land Commodities, as Rice, Sappang, Tin, Lead, Salt-peter; as also the profits of the Sand and Mountain Gold, which are only sold by the Kings Factors to forraign Merchants: He hath also his Customs for outlandish Wares; his Tributes and Presents from Subject-Princes, and Governours of Cities and Provinces, who know how much they must contribute; as also the profits of his Traffick with *Chormandel* and *China*: add to these the inland trade, carried on by his Factours in the City *Iudica*, or elsewhere, and his Majesty of *Siam* will be found to be one of the richest Princes of *India*. There are several Officers appointed for the receipt of incomes, who must account every year, and that exactly: Most of these monies are expended in building and repairing of Temples, in rewarding of merits, and defraying the publick charges of the Kingdom; the residue being brought into the Treasury, which is esteemed

esteemed rich and great. The Laws and Customes of *Siam* are strange (though orderly) in the succession of their Princes; when the King dies, it is not his Son, but his Brother who is heir to the Crown; but in case he have no Brother, then indeed his Son steps in by code, whose Brothers do succeed successively; lastly all the Sons of the eldest Brother, who hath raigned, follow by turns, the Daughters being wholly excluded any pretence to the Government. But this order is not alwayes observed, the Scepter being sometimes usurped by him of the family who is most powerful, and most gracious with the people, which is the present Kings case; who having raised himself before his turn, caused all his Competitors, and their Adherents, to be slain, to the end he might peaceably enjoy what he had unjustly got, and leave the Crown to his Brother or Children after him.

The ordinary Justice, both Criminal and Civil, is administred through the Kingdom according to their ancient Customes and Laws, by Officers purposely appointed: But in the City of *Judica* they have (besides the ordinary Courts of Judicature) a Colledge of twelve Councellours, with one principal President, which doth definitively decide all Appeals, and other businesses, whether Criminal or Civil.

It is indeed permitted, though with extraordinary expence and coſt, to appeal to the King and his Council, who ordinarily confirm and cauſe the former ſentence to be put in execution. In this and leſſer Courts all Civil diſputes are brought in by Lawyers; and the cauſe being pleaded, and witneſſes examined on both ſides before the Commiſſioners, the Secretary makes an extract of the whole, which being writ in a Book, it is ſigned by both Plantiff and Defendant, or others deputed by them; that done the Book is ſealed up, and kept by the Judge till next Seſſions; at which time it is again opened in the preſence of both parties, and their debates heard, noted, and ſealed as before: So that the Lawyers, by their ſeveral exceptions, demurs and practices, do very often delay and keep up the parties for many years; until at length, after much ſollicitings and expence, the cauſe is anew opened and examined, and finally adjudged and ended by a full Colledge. But in Criminal matters, as injuries, robberies, murther, treaſon, or the like, the guilty or ſuſpected perſon, is apprehended, impriſoned, and examined; if he deny the fault againſt witneſſes, or great preſumptions, he is forced by torture to confeſſion; all which being noted in a Book, and preſented to the Judges, they immediately proceed to

Sentence

Sentence and Execution; except in Capital crimes, such being reserved for the Kings pleasure, who either pardons, banishes, or causes the condemned person to be put to death, according to the sentence. Offences are ordinarily punished as they are more or less heynous, with cashiering, banishments into Desarts, slavery, confiscations, mutilation of hand or foot, burning in oyl, quartering, and other severe executions. Where the case is doubtful, no witnesses appearing, nor no strong presumptions against the accused, so that the Judge knows not how or what to do, he then permits both parties to try it out by common purgation; either by ducking under water, holding their hands in boyling oyl, to go bare-foot upon hot coals, or to eat a mess of charmed rice; this conjured mess being made up into balls, is given them by the Priest with much ceremony; and he that can swallow it without casting it up again, and behaves himself in this and the other trials with most courage, is esteemed most innocent and acquitted, whilest the other, whether accusor or accused, is most severely punished, according to the nature of the crime.

The Kings power and military force by water and land, consists most of his own Vassals and Natives; he hath indeed some few Stran-

gers, as Moors, Malayers, and ſome five hundred *Japanners*, the moſt eſteemed for their courage and fidelity, although the Prince now reigning drove them out of his Country, but they are now crept in again; ſo that moſt of his forces are *Stammers*, who muſt ſerve without pay, and be alwayes in a readineſs, the hundredth, fiftieth, twentieth, tenth, or fifth man being levied, according to the Kings pleaſure and occaſions. Beſides theſe, the Grandees have ordinarily ſome hundreds of men in their ſervice, who wait upon them in the field; ſo that his Majeſty can raiſe an Army when he thinks good, of two or three thouſand men, with two or three hundred Elephants, Victuals, Ammunition, and other warlike Inſtruments; for all this his Armies ſeldom exceed one hundred thouſand men, and not ordinarily forty or fifty thouſand, as his affairs require, either for offenſive or defenſive. His foot are in reaſonable good order, though meerly armed with Bows and Arrows, Shields, Swords, Pikes, and a few Guns: the horſe are not better, though generally armed with Swords, Shields, Bows, and Lances. Moſt of their force conſiſts in ſome hundreds of trained Elephants, each of them furniſhed with three armed men; and they have a good quantity of Cannons, but do not well know how

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to use them. At sea his Majesty hath several Gallies and Frigots well provided with great Guns, though the Seamen and Mariners are but pitiful. The Praws, wherewith the *Siammers* can stoutly scuffle, are without number, but ill ordered and armed, and yet sufficient to deal with their neighbouring enemies as unskilful as they are, though far short of our Europian Vessels and Mariners either to fight or sail. These Mariners, especially when their Princes have been brave, have conquered many of the neighbouring Kingdoms and Provinces; but being all humane things, they have their vicissitudes, these victories did but follow the fortune of their favorites.

There hath of old been great wars betwixt them of *Pegu* and *Siam*, with various success: the King of *Pegu* pretending to the Monarchy of the neighbouring Kingdoms, which he hath formerly had, and as yet possesseth in part; so that the borders of these Kingdoms are quite ruined and unpeopled, and these Princes of late years content with inroads and sudden invasions, with small flying Armies of twenty or thirty thousand men, which they have ordinarily for defence of the frontiers. The *Siammers* have had likewise wars against other Princes, as the Kings of *Jangoma*, *Tangon*, *Langhs-jangh*, and lastly against the King

of *Siam*, and ſtoutly defended himſelf againſt thoſe great Armies which were ſent to reduce him; of late the Kingdom hath been in peace until the uſurpation of the laſt deceaſed King, who having deſtroyed the true Heirs, and poſſeſſed the Government contrary to order, was likewiſe himſelf ſlain, together with his Brothers, and the Crown ſeized upon by another of the blood, who after ſeveral civil and forraign broils enjoyed it peaceably, and governs at preſent with great reputation and honour, continuing ſtill his wars with them of *Pegu*, and the Rebel *Cambodian*.

This Prince, as well as his Predeceſſors, is kind to Strangers, but reſpects and eſteems the *Netherlanders* more than the *Portugals*; which the late King ſufficiently teſtified, when upon the taking of a Holland Yacht in the River, *Anno* 1624. the Spaniſh Gally of *Don Ferdinando de Silva* was violently ſeized upon by his command, and reſtitution and ſatisfaction made to our Company; hereupon he was forced into a war with them of *Manhila*, and ſuffered much in his *China* voyages, which was well recompenſed by the ſeaſonable aſſiſtance of ſix Dutch men of war, which were lent him to be employed againſt his Rebels of *Patany*.

The King hath more than three thouſand tame Elephants in ſeveral parts of his Kingdom, each

each attended by two or three men, wherein much of his greatness doth consist; for these Beasts are very much esteemed in *India*, especially when trained up to the wars, the rest are employed to carry Ordnances, Tents, and Provisions to the Camp. These creatures being great, very strong, and strangely docible, are taken in several parts of the Country, and disciplined as followeth: A Troop of fifteen or twenty tame she Elephants, which were taken when they were young, are driven into the Wilderness, with two or three fellows to observe them; the wild ones upon sight of them, associate with them one or two at once, which are driven with the rest insensibly into a great square building with high stone walls, and encompassed on the outside with trees which cover them; as soon as these Beasts are decoyed in, a great turn pike is shut behind them, and gates to hinder their return; when they are entred further into the square place, the tame Elephants being brought up to it by their teachers, upon notice from them, slip away through other gates for the purpose; so that the wild ones being left alone, are out of other little squares, whereof one is in the middle, vexed and tormented with all manner of inventions to make them angry and furious: the above mentioned squares are made of great

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thick posts, well nigh two fathoms high, but so far distant from each other, that a man may creep betwixt them; so that when the Elephant with his running, turning and winding, seeks to revenge himself upon his tormenters, they save themselves behind these posts; at length, when the beast is weary, and sufficiently tormented, there is a great door opened, into which he runs to save himself, which is immediately shut upon him, and he restrained to a narrower prison, and is there bound to two or three tame Elephants, placed for the purpose; this done, they are led into a covered house, where cross planks being contrived under the wild ones belly, they are hoysted up with pullies, and left as it were half hanging for some time; so that with this invention, and help of the tame ones, they are wholly tamed in three or four moneths, and rendred supple and useful. The Court is for the most part present (Galleries being builded for the Spectatours) at the taking and tormenting of the Elephants, which is most pleasant to behold. These Beasts are sometimes taken in the open fields, being environed with tame ones, and caught in snares and jins; but this way is dangerous although often practised; and both shew how fabulously Writers have informed the World in this particular.

A white Elephant (esteemed by the *Indians* a wonder in Nature) hath been found in *Siam*, and no other known Land; it is esteemed by the inhabitants as the Prince of the Elephants, and hath been so treated by the Kings of this Country, who have had of them in the Palaces many times, and caused them to be served in state, often visited them, and honoured their Vassals with more than ordinary respect. These white Elephants have formerly occasioned great wars betwixt the *Siammers* and their Neighbours; and some sixty years since against the King of *Pegu*, who proving victorious, did not only take the white Elephant prisoner, but obliged the King of *Siam* to become his Tributary; which yoke the following Princes did not only cast off, but gloriously revenge their Predecessours misfortunes. During my first residence in *Siam*, the then King took two young white Elephants, but both died shortly after to his great grief. This Nation believes somewhat more then humane nature of this creature, alledging they do not only respect him for his whiteness, but for his divine understanding; which appears in his pride and glorying when he is treated in state, and of his melancholy and sorrow when those honours are denied him, or that the black Elephant refuses him his obeisance.

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The *Siammers*, as also the Neighbouring Nations, are all Idolaters and Heathens, so that they have every where great and little Temples and Cloysters for the service of their Gods; and the dwellings of their Priests. These Edifices are builded of Wood and Stone very Artificial and sumptuous, with gilded Towers and Pyramids; each of the Temples and Cloysters being filled with an incredible number of Idols, of divers materials and greatness, gilded adorned and beautified very rich and admirable; some of the Idols are four, six, eight, and ten fathoms long; amongst the rest there is one of an unimaginable greatness, being one hundred and twenty foot high. In these Temples and Cloysters there are many Priests and religious Men disciplined, and very obedient to their superiours, being all subject to the Arch *Flamin*, or Prior of the great Temple of *Judica*, whose spiritual power is vastly great, though subordinate to the Kings. All the Clergy (whereof there are in *Judica* alone at least thirty thousand) are clothed, without any remarkable difference, in yellow linnen clothes, having their heads all shorn. The learnedst amongst these are professed Priests, out of which the Regents of their Temples are chosen, (who are held in great esteem and reverence by the People) preaching, teaching, and offering up-

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on their Feasts and Holy-dayes. These are prohibited the natural use of Women, upon pain of being buried; but they may always, and at pleasure, upon declaration of their frailty or weakness, quit their frocks, and betake themselves to another life, which happens often amongst them. They have their morning and evening Song, Readings and other Services, celebrated in their Cloysters every day, and frequented by their society. They live upon the Alms and bounty of the King and great Ones, as also on the fruit which their Church Lands bring forth; but principally out of the sweet and labours of the Commonalty, who unanimously share with them, they sending every morning some Priests and Clerks out of their Cloysters, with begging bags to receive these donations and charity. Besides these Priests, there are a sort of old Nuns shorn, lodged in Chappels near the greatest Temples, who assist very devoutly in all their preachings, singings, ceremonies, and other Church services, but all voluntary, being tied to no rules or prescriptions. These Heathens do generally believe, (however differing in many particulars) that there is one upper God, with many lesser Deities in Heaven, who created all things: that the Souls of Men are immortal, and shall be rewarded or punished according

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to their merits and actions; the good dwelling with the God in bliss, whilest the wicked are tormented by the Devils that seduced them. Their Religion is principally founded upon these points, which have been delivered to them in writing many hundred years since, and confirmed with the testimony of many holy men, (whose memory they worship in their Images, which they have set up like so many lesser Deities) who by their charity to the Church, to the poor, and to all things that had life, they endeavored to merit Heaven, and avoid the dreadful punishments of the Devils. Those that are religious and superstitious in these, buy ordinarily upon Feast dayes, multitudes of Birds and living Fish, bringing them to the Temple, and there give them their liberty; esteeming it a great sin to kill not only men, but the more rude creatures, fancying the souls of deceased persons to be transmigrated into them: all other evils which Nature teaches us to be sin, they account so too, and are much preached against by their Priests. The chief Ceremonies of this Idolatry are, as we said, preaching, teaching, singing evening and morning Prayers, and offering of Sacrifice, which is done with torches, candles, incense, spices, and flowers at the altars of their images, which in their opinion represent the great God, the

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leſſer Deities, and holy Men, whereby they think their wrath is appeaſed; to which end they celebrate with much ſolemnity at the new, full, and quarters of the Moon, as alſo ſeveral other extraordinary Feſtivals, with a faſting from any thing which hath had life, for three moneths together, they pray for the ſick, and alſo the dead, who being firſt ſuperſtitiouſly ſhaven, anointed, charmed, and with much ceremony, as weeping, cutting of the hair of the head by the next friend, alms, prayers of the Prieſts, Muſick, Plays, Fire-works, and other ſhows (according to the quality and ability of the deceaſed) burnt with fire, their collected aſhes are afterwards anointed and buried near the Temples, a Pyramid rich and magnificent being erected over them; ſo that theſe funerals are extreamly expenſive to the ſurvivors, as well as honorable for the deceaſed. The Prieſts carry themſelves very moderately to thoſe of a contrary Religion, condemning no opinions, but believe that all, though of differing tenets, living vertuouſly, may be ſaved, all ſervices which are performed with zeal being acceptable to the great God, eſpecially theirs, they being convinced of its truth and innocency. This conſtancy of theirs makes them not eaſily to be drawn to any other perſwaſion, which hath been ſufficiently attempted

ed by the *Portugals*, whose industrious Priests omitted nothing for their conversion, and by the Mahometans who are no less zealous in their way, though with little or no success by either of them, and yet the Christians, as also the Mahometans, are both permitted the free exercise of their Religions in their Countrey. However these Heathen be thus religious, yet they fear and serve (although contrary to the opinion of most of their Priests) the very Devils, whom they believe to be the authours and causes of all evil, as the Gods are of every thing that is good and vertuous: They adore these unclean Spirits in their sicknesses and misfortunes, celebrating their feasts with instruments playing, and offering attoning sacrifices of fruits and living creatures: They are so strangely abominable in their gestures and actions, that it is not fit for a Christian either to see or write them; thus fondly searching his favour, whose indulgences do but plunge them deeper in their unhappy mistakes and errours. The people of this Countrey are reasonably well proportioned, brown and tawny; they are none of the best Souldiers, though proud and insolent in their victories; they are modest enough in their civil conversation, though naturally light, fearful, incredulous, dissimuled, deceitful, and very lying. The men are lazy and

slow,

flow, inſomuch that the women, with their ſlaves, are forced (contrary to the cuſtoms of other Nations) to labour the earth, & do moſt of their husbands work, beſides taking care for their families & houſes, whilſt the men follow their pleaſure & divertiſements abroad. They cloath themſelvs (both men & women) thin, according to the hot climat they live in; both ſexes wear painted petticoats, the men covering their upper parts with a ſhort ſhirt with half-ſleeves, and the women with a thin cloth, both ends hanging over their ſhoulders to hide their breſts: They wear for ornaments gold pins in their hair, and rings of the ſame mettal on their fingers: This is the ordinary wear, high & low being all of a faſhion, & not diſtinguiſhable but by the richneſs of their veſtments, & the greatneſs of their trains, which they much glory in: The Gentry & Nobles have many ſlaves attending them when they go abroad, ſome ten, twenty, thirty, or more, according to their abilities and greatneſs; and not a Citizen or his Wife ſtirs in the ſtreets without one or two of theſe ſlaves to wait upon them. Their houſes are builded according to the faſhion in *India*, of wood and reeds, and covered with *Coco* leaves, or tiles; the floors are raiſed three or four foot high, their appartements being commodious, though but ſlenderly furniſhed, only

for sleeping, and dressing what is necessary for their refection. Their diet is but mean, as rice, fish, and herbs; they drink water, though on Feast-dayes they indulge more the common people, drinking ordinarily Arak, or Brandy-Wine.

They differ very much in their customs about marrying; great Persons need nothing but the consent of their Parents or Friends, (the Priests not intermedling at all) the ceremony ending in feasting and rejoycing. Husband and Wife may part again at pleasure, dealing their goods and children without further circumstance, & may re-marry if they think good, without fear of shame or punishment. A man may keep as many Concubines as he pleases, besides his Wife, though they are in some subordinancy to her, whose Children only inherit, the other being contented with small portions for their subsistence. Great mens goods are divided after their deaths into three parts; one part for the King, the second for the Priests and their Funerals, and the third for their Children. The common People have other Customs; the Bridegroom buyeth his Bride for a sum of monies of her Father or Friends, whereupon the marriage is made and concluded with a little feasting; but they may divorce, like the great Ones, at pleasure, & marry again with the same liberty.

liberty. The Children deal their deceaſed parents goods equally, except ſome little advantages for the eldeſt Son. They have many other Cuſtoms in marriage and ſucceſſion, too long and tedious to write. As for their Children, they ſend them to ſchool at five or ſix years old where they are taught to write and read, and rendered fit for Trades and other employments; ſome are continued in their ſtudies by the Prieſts their Maſters, until they are called to Offices and advancements in the State, and then they caſt off the yellow frock; others continue there out of hopes of being one day Heads of Temples and Schools, or ſharing in the Prieſthood.

The *Siammers*, who live in Towns and populous places, are either Courtiers, Officers, Merchants, Watermen, Fiſhermen, Tradeſmen, or Artificers, each one containing himſelf in his vocation: The Country people brew, till, plant, and bring up ſwarms of Cattel, as Horſes, Kine, Swine, Deer; and domeſtick Fowl, as Geeſe, Peacocks, Ducks, Hens, Pigeons, and other tame creatures, inſomuch that proviſion is very cheap, notwithſtanding the abundance of it which is ſent into the neighbouring Provinces for their ſupply and uſe: They have Brick, Lime, Wood, and all materials for building of Churches, Forts, Houſes, Ships, Prawes,

Jonks, and other veſſels in great quantities. The divers Towns of this Countrey have their ſeveral Trafficks and Commerce; in the chief City the trading is very good and free in its courſe; the principal commodities are Choromandes and Sura veſtments, all manner of *China* wares, Jewels, Gold, Benjamin, Gumlack, Wax, Sappang, Agerwood, Tin, and Lead, *&c.* as alſo vaſt numbers of Harts-skins, one hundred and fifty thouſand of theſe creatures being caught yearly in this Countrey, and ſold with much profit to the *Japanners*. They drive a great trade with all eating proviſions, eſpecially Rice, many thouſand Tuns being tranſported yearly by Forraigners. This City, by reaſon of its great traffick, is frequented by ſeveral Nations, as the *Indians*, the more Weſtern *Aſiaticks*, European Moors, and Chriſtian Merchants. The King himſelf is alſo a Merchant, and hath his own Ships and Factours trading to *Choromandel* and *China*, being for that cauſe more favoured and priviledged then any other Prince; he likewiſe trafficks to *Pegu*, *Ava*, *Jongoma*, *Langs-jang*, and other places, beſides his negotiations at home, all which bring him incredible profit, and no ſmall diſturbance to private Merchants, all which do certainly manifeſt the great trade that is carried on in this Countrey. The Moneys currant is of

of very fine silver, of a round figure, and impressed with the Kings picture; the kinds are, a Ticlas, a Mase, and a Fong, worth thirty pence, seven pence half penny, and four pence English, or near upon. They reckon ordinarily by *Cattys*, each being twenty *Tayls*, or forty eight Royals of eight; and it is with this and no other coin that they handle and trade with, save that there is a lesser called *Schulpkens*, or little Sheels, whereof eight or nine thousand go to a Fong, being brought out of *Manilha*, *Borneo*, and *Lequeo*, very useful for poor people.

Before the coming of the Netherlanders into the *Indiaes*, the *Portugals* had great correspondence and amity with this Kingdom, being in such esteem and honour by the King, that the Embassadours sent from their Vice-Roys, Governours, and Bishops of *Malacca* in *India*, were not only well received by his Majesty, but richly presented by him, and many of the residing *Portugals* in this Country advanced to great Offices and preferments; they had not only the free exercise of their Religion, but their chief Priest had also a monthly pension allowed him for his more splendid subsistence; thus they prospered here for many years, until the Dutch Company got footing amongst them, and gained upon them from time to time, by taking their Ships and interrupting their trade, with

Santhome

Sanhome and *Nevagatain*, insomuch that they are at present very low and out of credit, occasioned more particularly by their taking of a Dutch Yacht by a Spanish Gally in the River of *Siam*, which the King took so highly, that he revenged it with his Arms, which produced a war between him and *Manilha*; and however the *Portugals* seemed unconcerned in this quarrel, yet they wholly lost their credit at Court, insomuch that the Bishop of *Malaccas* Vicar, their chief Resident there, is debarred of his usual access to his Majesty and his Ministers, whereas in former times they were esteemed the only and chief Merchants of the whole Kingdom. This breach and difference between these two Nations, was fomented by the Dutch, and increased by several acts of hostility on the *Portugals* side, who took many of his Majesties Ships and Vassals at Sea; in revenge whereof, the *Portugal* Vessels were seized on in *India*, and all the present *Portugals* natives clapt up in prison, who were after two years restraint, upon a fictitious embassie, restored to their liberty; but this practice coming to light, occasioned the seisure of a *Castilian* and a *Portugal* Vessel in the Havens of *Ligoor* and *Tanassary*, the men whereof were not released till after a two years restraint; but then indeed returned with his Majesties Letters to the Governours of *Manilha* and

and *Malacca*, with invitations of their former peace & traffick, where it is probable they may return, but questionable whether they shall ever recover their former credit and authority.

It is more than thirty years since the Netherlanders came first to *Siam*, and were admitted of by his Majesty; so that the Company have judged it necessary, for the cherishing their traffick and alliance with so mighty a Prince, to settle there; to which end they builded a house, or lodge, of wood in the City of *India*, where they trade in in-land commodities, and selling of clothes, as also buying of Harts-skins, Sapping, *&c.* which are sent yearly to *Japan*: the Company indeed hath not profited much, by reason of several misfortunes by this traffick; but they have gained more reputation than any Europians besides, by the great friendship and correspondence which is betwixt them and the King; and also have had the benefit of transporting great quantities of all sorts of provisions in *Batamia*, which friendship, notwithstanding the several successions of the Princes, disturbing the Companies Cantore and Servants, is yet sufficiently conserved and continued, and ought in my opinion to be cherished, as absolutely necessary for the good and welfare of our Company, as also in regard of the Kings civil usage of us, and his aversion

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to the Spaniards, our common enemy; finally our factory established there in the year 1633. and trading during my four years direction, are so much corrected and increased, that the Company hath remarkably gained by them, with probability, with good management of more signal advantages: To which end the General and Councel of *India* caused in *Anno* 1634. a stone lodge, with fit pack-houses, pleasant apartements, and a commodious landing place, to be builded on the borders of the River *Menam*, being one of the convenientest and best scituated of any that is unfortified in all the *Indies*.

And thus much we found good to discover of the customes and manners of the Kingdom of *Siam*, being my observations during my eight years residence in the chief City of the Country. I have followed the exact rules of truth, according to my best knowledge and diligence, in this short relation.

FINIS.